Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI)

Assessment Overview

Assessment Area

ICF Domain:

Body Functions

Subcategory:

Genitourinary and reproductive functions

You Will Need

Length:

19 items – approximately 10 minutes

Scoring:

Each item is scored from 0 to 5 except questions 1, 2, 13-16 (which are scored from 1 to 5). The items are then scaled to achieve a maximum score of 36.

Summary

The FSFI is a survey measuring the sexual functioning of women in six different domains: desire, arousal, lubrication, orgasm, satisfaction and pain. The index only measures sexual function in these domains over the previous 30 days.

The FSFI has primarily been tested on women with sexual arousal disorder as well as the general population. The index is less established in groups with spinal cord injury.

Availability

Available for free here:
http://www.fsfiquestionnaire.com/FSFI%20Scoring%20Appendix.pdf

Assessment Interpretability

Minimal Clinically Important Difference

Not established in SCI

Statistical Error

Not established in SCI

Typical Values

Not established in SCI
Mean (SD) Scores for women with Female Sexual Arousal Disorder:

Desire: 4.7 (2.12)

Arousal: 9.7 (4.78)

Lubrication: 10.9 (5.48)

Orgasm: 7.1 (4.08)

Satisfaction: 8.2 (3.59)

Pain: 10.1 (4.64)

Scaled total score: 19.2 (6.63)

(Rosen et al. 2011; N=259, 131 controls, 128 women with female sexual arousal disorder, age range: 21-69)

Measurement Properties

Validity – **Low** to *High (in FSAD groups and gen. pop.)*

Not established in SCI

In general population:

High **Significance in difference in mean scores between Female Sexual Arousal Disorder and control groups:**

P < 0.001

Low to *Moderate* **Correlation between FSFI with Wallace Marital Adjustment Test:**

Control group, r = 0.53
Female Sexual Arousal Disorder group, r = 0.22

(Rosen et al. 2011; n=259, 131 controls, 129 with female sexual arousal disorder, age range: 21-69 years)

Number of studies reporting validity data: 4

Reliability – *High (in FSAD groups and gen. pop.)*

Not established in SCI

In general population:

High **Internal Consistency:**

$\alpha = 0.97$ (full sample), $\alpha = 0.93$ (FSAD), $\alpha = 0.95$ (gen. pop.)

(Rosen et al. 2011; n=259, 131 controls, 129 with female sexual arousal disorder, age range: 21-69 years)

High **Test-Retest Reliability for total scale:**

ICC = 0.94

(Wolpe et al. 2017; n=246, mean age (±SD): 22.85 (±5.59) years)

High **Correlation between online and paper FSFI tests:**

r = 0.934 (P=0.91)

(Crisp et al. 2014; n=151, mean age (±SD): 43.4 (±9.8) years)

Number of studies reporting reliability data: 7

Responsiveness

Floor/Ceiling Effect:

Not established in SCI

Effect Size:

Not established in SCI

Number of studies reporting responsiveness data:

Not established in SCI