

Geriatric Depression Scale 15-Item

Overview :

The Geriatric Depression Scale 15-Item (GDS-15) is a shorter version of the original Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS-30). It can be used to evaluate an elderly patient for evidence of depression.

	YES	NO
1. Are you basically satisfied with your life?	0	1
2. Have you dropped many of your activities and interests?	1	0
3. Do you feel that your life is empty?	1	0
4. Do you often get bored?	1	0
5. Are you in good spirits most of the time?	0	1
6. Are you afraid that something bad is going to happen to you?	1	0
7. Do you feel happy most of the time?	0	1
8. Do you feel helpless?	1	0
9. Do you prefer staying in, rather than going out and doing new things?	1	0
10. Do you feel you have more problems with memory than most?	1	0
11. Do you think it is wonderful to be alive now?	0	1
12. Do you feel pretty worthless the way you are now?	1	0
13. Do you feel full of energy?	0	1
14. Do you feel that your situation is hopeless?	1	0
15. Do you think that most people are better off than you are?	1	0

Positive directed (Yes indicates not depressed): 1, 5, 7, 11, 13

Negative directed (Yes indicates depressed): 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15

Response	Points for Positive Statements	Points of Negative Statements
Yes	0	1
No	1	0

Total score = SUM (points for all 15 questions)

Interpretation: minimum score: 0; maximum score: 15

A cutoff of ≥ 5 to indicate depression was considered the optimum cut-point, with sensitivity of 78.6% and specificity of 67%).

Cutoff	Sensitivity	Specificity
>= 3	88.1%	34%
>= 4	83.3%	52.1%
>= 5	78.6%	67%
>= 6	69%	76.6%
>= 7	60.7%	85.1%

References:

Sutcliffe C, Cordingley L, et al. A new version of the geriatric depression scale for nursing and residential home populations: The Geriatric Depression Scale (Residential) GDS-12R). *International Psychogeriatrics*. 2000; 12: 173-181.