

OSWESTRY DISABILITY INDEX Low Back Pain

PATIENT: John Anderson

DATE: 3/9/2011

SCORE: 54.00%

EXPLANATION:

The Oswestry Disability Index (aka: Oswestry Low Back Pain Disability Questionnaire) is an extremely important tool that researchers and disability evaluators use to measure a patient's permanent functional disability. The test has been around for more than 25 years and is considered the "gold standard" of low back functional outcome tools. (Fairbank JC, Pynsent PB, "The Oswestry Disability Index." Spine 2000; 25(22): 2940-2952)

INSTRUCTIONS:

The patient is instructed to answer the questions below by choosing the 'best answer' that describes their 'typical' pain and/or limitations within the last week or two. They may only choose ONE answer. If the patient's limitations fall in-between two questions, they should choose the higher point value question. When the test has been completed, points are added and divided by 50. Multiply by 100 to get the percent disability.

Section 1: Pain Intensity

- I can tolerate the pain I have without having to use pain killers. [0 points]
- The pain is bad but I manage without taking pain killers. [1 point]
- Pain killers give complete relief from pain . [2 points]
- Pain killers give moderate relief from pain. [3 points]
- Pain killers give very little relief from pain. [4 points]
- Pain killers have no effect on the pain and I do not use them. [5 points]

Section 2: Personal Care

- I can look after myself normally without causing extra pain. [0 points]
- I can look after myself normally but it causes extra pain. [1 point]
- It is painful to look after myself and I am slow and careful. [2 points]
- I need some help but manage most of my personal care. [3 points]
- I need help every day in most aspects of self care. [4 points]
- I do not get dressed wash with difficulty and stay in bed. [5 points]

Section 3: Lifting

- I can lift heavy weights without extra pain. [0 points]
- I can lift heavy weights but it gives extra pain. [1 point]
- Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights off the floor but I can manage if they are conveniently positioned for example on a table. [2 points]
- Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights but I can manage light to medium weights if they are conveniently positioned. [3 points]
- I can lift only very light weights. [4 points]
- I cannot lift or carry anything at all. [5 points]

Section 4: Walking

- Pain does not prevent me walking any distance. [0 points]
- Pain prevents me walking more than 1 mile. [1 point]
- Pain prevents me walking more than 0.5 miles. [2 points]
- Pain prevents me walking more than 0.25 miles. [3 points]
- I can only walk using a stick or crutches. [4 points]
- I am in bed most of the time and have to crawl to the toilet. [5 points]

Section 5: Sitting

- I can sit in any chair as long as I like. [0 points]
- I can only sit in my favorite chair as long as I like. [1 point]
- Pain prevents me sitting more than 1 hour. [2 points]
- Pain prevents me from sitting more than 0.5 hours. [3 points]
- Pain prevents me from sitting more than 10 minutes. [4 points]
- Pain prevents me from sitting at all. [5 points]

Section 6: Standing

- I can stand as long as I want without extra pain. [0 points]
- I can stand as long as I want but it gives me extra pain. [1 point]
- Pain prevents me from standing for more than 1 hour. [2 points]
- Pain prevents me from standing for more than 30 minutes. [3 points]
- Pain prevents me from standing for more than 10 minutes. [4 points]
- Pain prevents me from standing at all. [5 points]

Section 7: Sleeping

- Pain does not prevent me from sleeping well. [0 points]
- I can sleep well only by using tablets. [1 point]
- Even when I take tablets I have less than 6 hours sleep. [2 points]
- Even when I take tablets I have less than 4 hours sleep. [3 points]
- Even when I take tablets I have less than 2 hours of sleep. [4 points]
- Pain prevents me from sleeping at all. [5 points]

Section 8: Sex Life

- My sex life is normal and causes no extra pain. [0 points]
- My sex life is normal but causes some extra pain. [1 point]
- My sex life is nearly normal but is very painful. [2 points]
- My sex life is severely restricted by pain. [3 points]
- My sex life is nearly absent because of pain. [4 points]
- Pain prevents any sex life at all. [5 points]

Section 9: Social Life

- My social life is normal and gives me no extra pain. [0 points]
- My social life is normal but increases the degree of pain. [1 point]
- Pain has no significant effect on my social life apart from limiting energetic interests such as dancing. [2 points]
- Pain has restricted my social life and I do not go out as often. [3 points]
- Pain has restricted my social life to my home. [4 points]
- I have no social life because of pain. [5 points]

Section 10: Traveling

- I can travel anywhere without extra pain. [0 points]
- I can travel anywhere but it gives me extra pain. [1 point]
- Pain is bad but I manage journeys over 2 hours. [2 points]
- Pain restricts me to journeys of less than 1 hour. [3 points]
- Pain restricts me to short necessary journeys under 30 minutes. [4 points]
- Pain prevents me from traveling except to the doctor or hospital. [5 points]

SCORING:

0%-20%: Minimal disability: The patient can cope with most living activities. Usually no treatment is indicated apart from advice on lifting sitting and exercise.

21%-40%: Moderate disability: The patient experiences more pain and difficulty with sitting lifting and standing. Travel and social life are more difficult and they may be disabled from work. Personal care sexual activity and sleeping are not grossly affected and the patient can usually be managed by conservative means.

41%-60%: Severe disability: Pain remains the main problem in this group but activities of daily living are affected. These patients require a detailed investigation.

61%-80%: Crippled: Back pain impinges on all aspects of the patient's life. Positive intervention is required.

81%-100%: These patients are either bed-bound or exaggerating their symptoms.

NOTE:

If a section is not completed or not applicable, 5 points are subtracted from the total possible points.

If you have any questions related to the validity of this test or the patient's responses to the above statements, please contact my office at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Spatoulis, D.C.
Atlas Chiropractic Center