Depression Rating Scale

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Background on Scale Development

- Depression Rating Scale measures depression in nursing home residents
 - Draws on routine, daily observations of licensed care staff (in contrast to previous scales that required specialized training to use an evaluation instrument)
 - Uses 16 mood indicators from MDS 2.0, items that were significantly correlated with the Hamilton Depression Rating Scale and the Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia were selected
- 7 items, each scored from 0-2
 - 0 mood indicator not exhibited in the last 30 days
 - 1 mood indicator exhibited up to five days a week
 - 2 mood indicator exhibited daily or almost daily (6-7 days a week)
 - If any of the seven items is missing, then the DRS is set to missing
- Range of values: 0-14
 - A higher score indicates greater depressive symptoms.



Background on Scale Development

- Summary of Analyses of psychometric properties
 - Previous studies have established the reliability of the mood and behavioral items on the MDS 2.0^{1,2}
 - Validity
 - Cronbach alpha 0.71 -0.75
 - Highly correlated with established
 - 17-item Hamilton Depression Rating Scale
 - 19-item Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia
 - Cut off point 3
 - High Sensitivity Specificity with Hamilton, Cornell and clinical diagnosis
 - Higher Sensitivity Specificity than Geriatric Depression Scale
 - Factor analysis demonstrates content validity



Citation regarding psychometrics of the scale: Burrows AB, Morris JN, Simon SE, Hirdes JP, Phillips C. Development of a minimum data set-based depression rating scale for use in nursing homes. *Age Ageing*. 2000;29(2):165-172. doi:10.1093/ageing/29.2.165

¹Morris, J. N., Nonemaker, S., Murphy, K., Hawes, C., Fries, B. E., Mor, V., & Phillips, C. (1997). A commitment to change: revision of HCFA's RAI. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, *45*(8), 1011–1016. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1532-5415.1997.tb02974.x

²Sgadari, A., Morris, J. N., Fries, B. E., Ljunggren, G., Jónsson, P. V., DuPaquier, J. N., & Schroll, M. (1997). Efforts to establish the reliability of the Resident Assessment Instrument. *Age and ageing*, *26 Suppl 2*, 27–30. https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/26.suppl_2.27

MDS Items

MDS 2.0 items	MDS 3.0 items	Notes:
Negative statements: MDS2_E1a Resident made negative statements	N/A	
Persistent anger with self or others: MDS2_E1d Persistent anger with Easily annoyed, anger at placement in nursing home or care received.		
Expressions of what appear to be unrealistic fears: MDS2_E1f Fear of being abandoned, left alone or being with other		
Repetitive health complaints: MDS2_E1h Persistently seeks medical attention, obsessive concern with body functions		
Repetitive anxious complaints concerns (non-health related): MDS2 E1i		
Persistently seeks attention/reassurance regarding schedule, meals, laundry, clothes relationship issues		
Sad, pained, worried facial expression: MDS2_E1l Furrowed brows, etc.		
Crying, tearfulness: MDS2_E1m		



Technical Notes

None

