

# Oswestry Disability Index

Please Read: This questionnaire is designed to enable us to understand how much your low back has affected your ability to manage everyday activities. Please answer each Section by circling the **ONE CHOICE** that most applies to you. We realize that you may feel that more than one statement may relate to you, but Please **just circle the one choice which closely describes your problem right now.**

## SECTION 1--Pain Intensity

- A. The pain comes and goes and is very mild.
- B. The pain is mild and does not vary much.
- C. The pain comes and goes and is moderate.
- D. The pain is moderate and does not vary much.
- E. The pain is severe but comes and goes.
- F. The pain is severe and does not vary much.

## SECTION 2--Personal Care

- A. I would not have to change my way of washing or dressing in order to avoid pain.
- B. I do not normally change my way of washing or dressing even though it causes some pain.
- C. Washing and dressing increase the pain, but I manage not to change my way of doing it.
- D. Washing and dressing increase the pain and I it necessary to change my way of doing it.
- E. Because of the pain, I am unable to do any washing and dressing without help.
- F. Because of the pain, I am unable to do any washing or dressing without help.

## SECTION 3--Lifting

- A. I can lift heavy weights without extra pain.
- B. I can lift heavy weights, but it causes extra pain.
- C. Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights off the floor.
- D. Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights off the floor, but I can manage if they are conveniently positioned, e.g. on the table.
- E. Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights, but I can manage light to medium weights if they are conveniently positioned.
- F. I can only lift very light weights, at the most.

## SECTION 4 --Walking

- A. Pain does not prevent me from walking any distance.
- B. Pain prevents me from walking more than one mile.
- C. Pain prevents me from walking more than one mile.
- D. Pain prevents me from walking more than 1/2 mile.
- E. I can only walk while using a cane or on crutches.
- F. I am in bed most of the time and have to crawl to the toilet.

## SECTION 5--Sitting

- A. I can sit in any chair as long as I like without pain.
- B. I can only sit in my favorite chair as long as I like.
- C. Pain prevents me from sitting more than one hour.
- D. Pain prevents me from sitting more than 1/2 hour.
- E. Pain prevents me from sitting more than ten minutes.
- F. Pain prevents me from sitting at all.

## SECTION 6 -- Standing

- A. I can stand as long as I want without pain
- B. I have some pain while standing, but it does not increase with time.
- C. I cannot stand for longer than one hour without increasing pain.
- D. I cannot stand for longer than 1/2 hour without increasing pain.
- E. I can't stand for more than 10 minutes without increasing pain.
- F. I avoid standing because it increases pain right away.

## SECTION 7--Sleeping

- A. I get no pain in bed.
- B. I get pain in bed, but it does not prevent me from sleeping.
- C. Because of pain, my normal night's sleep is reduced by less than one-quarter.
- D. Because of pain, my normal night's sleep is reduced by less than one-half.
- E. Because of pain, my normal night's sleep is reduced by less than three-quarters.
- F. Pain prevents me from sleeping at all.

## SECTION 8--Social Life

- A. My social life is normal and gives me no pain.
- B. My social life is normal, but increases the degree of my pain.
- C. Pain has no significant effect on my social life apart from limiting my more energetic interests, e.g., dancing, etc.
- D. Pain has restricted my social life and I do not go out very often.
- E. Pain has restricted my social life to my home.
- F. Pain prevents me from sleeping at all.

## SECTION 9--Traveling

- A. I get no pain while traveling.
- B. I get some pain while traveling, but none of my usual forms of travel make it any worse.
- C. I get extra pain while traveling, but it does not compel me to seek alternative forms of travel.
- D. I get extra pain while traveling which compels me to seek alternative forms of travel.
- E. Pain restricts all forms off travel.
- F. Pain prevents all forms of travel except that done lying down.

## SECTION 10--Changing Degree of Pain

- A. My pain is rapidly getting better.
- B. My pain fluctuates, but overall is definitely getting better.
- C. My pain seems to be getting better, but improvement is slow at present.
- D. My pain is neither getting better nor worse.
- E. My pain is gradually worsening.
- F. My pain is rapidly worsening.

DISABILITY INDEX SCORE: % \_\_\_\_\_