Raskin Depression Rating Scale


Rating  Clinician-rated

Administration time  10–15 minutes

Main purpose  To assess severity of depressive symptoms, with a specific focus upon verbal report, behaviour and secondary symptoms

Population  Adult inpatients or outpatients

Commentary

The Raskin Depression Rating Scale (or Three-Area Severity of Depression Scale) is a brief, clinician-rated scale suitable for assessing both baseline levels of depression and change in depression severity over time. Sources of information for the rating may include patient self-report, information obtained during interview or collateral information from ward staff. The scale requires the clinician to rate the patient’s verbal report of depressive symptoms, their depressed behaviour, and secondary symptoms of depression (primarily somatic). Although the Raskin scale is relatively quick and easy to administer, it lacks specificity, and is usually administered in conjunction with more specific rating scales such as the HDRS (see page 28).

Scoring

Items are rated on a 1–5 scale (1 = not at all through to 5 = very much). The authors suggest that a score ≥9 represents moderate depression.

Versions

No alternative versions are available.

Additional reference


Address for correspondence

Not applicable – the scale is in the public domain.

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<th>Raskin Depression Scale</th>
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Rate each of the following according to the degree of severity below:

1. **Verbal report**: Feels blue, talks of feeling helpless or worthless, complains of loss of interest, may wish to be dead, reports of crying spells.
2. **Behavior**: Looks sad, cries easily, speaks in a sad voice, psychomotor retardation, lacking energy.
3. **Secondary symptoms of depression**: Insomnia/hypersomnia, dry mouth, GI complaints, suicide attempt recently, change in appetite, cognitive problems.