

# Generalised Anxiety Disorder Scale (GADS-7)

(Originates from Spitzer et al, 2006)

This easy-to-use self-administered patient scale is used as a screening tool and severity measure for generalised anxiety disorder (GAD).

- (3) It happens often and always to me (>%80),
- (2) It happens sometimes (between %50 - %80),
- (1) It happens a little bit (<%50),
- (0) It does not happen at all.

Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered/annoyed by any of the following problems?

No	Statement	Options			
1	Feeling nervous, anxious or on edge?	0	1	2	3
2	Not being able to stop or control worrying?	0	1	2	3
3	Worrying too much about different things?	0	1	2	3
4	Trouble relaxing?	0	1	2	3
5	Being so restless that it is hard to sit still?	0	1	2	3
6	Becoming easily annoyed or irritable?	0	1	2	3
7	Feeling afraid as if something awful might happen?	0	1	2	3
Total = [       ] out of 21scores					

## Evaluation:

### Normal

Scores from 0-4



### Mild Anxiety Scores from 5-9



### Moderate Anxiety Scores from 10-14



### Severe Anxiety Scores from 15-21



### Notes:

The GAD-7 originates from Spitzer RL, Kroenke K, Williams JB, et al; A brief measure for assessing generalized anxiety disorder: the GAD-7. Arch Intern Med. 2006 May 22;166(10):1092-7.

The GAD-7 score is calculated by assigning scores of 0, 1, 2, and 3, to the response categories of 'not at all', 'several days', 'more than half the days', and 'nearly every day', respectively, and adding together the scores for the seven questions.

Scores of 5, 10, and 15 are taken as the cut-off points for mild, moderate and severe anxiety, respectively. When used as a screening tool, **further evaluation is recommended when the score is 10 or greater.**

Using the threshold score of 10, the GAD-7 has a sensitivity of 89% and a specificity of 82% for GAD. It is moderately good at screening three other common anxiety disorders - panic disorder (sensitivity 74%, specificity 81%), social anxiety disorder (sensitivity 72%, specificity 80%) and post-traumatic stress disorder (sensitivity 66%, specificity 81%).<sup>[3]</sup>

(1) Swinson, R.P. (2006). The GAD-7 scale was accurate for diagnosing generalised anxiety disorder. Evid Based Med. 11(6):184.

(2) Spitzer RL, Kroenke K, Williams JB, et al (2006). A brief measure for assessing generalized anxiety disorder: the GAD-7. Arch Intern Med. 166(10):1092-7.

(3) Kroenke K, Spitzer RL, Williams JB, et al (2007). Anxiety disorders in primary care: prevalence, impairment, comorbidity, and detection. Ann Intern Med. 146(5):317-25.