

Purpose

- The PDS is a **49-item** screening instrument, based on DSM-IV diagnostic criteria for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- It is designed to assess the presence and severity of PTSD symptoms experienced **in the past month**
- It is sensitive enough to monitor short-term treatment progress, so it can be administered at any time during the course of treatment

Administration

- The PDS is a self-report questionnaire
- It requires a **minimum 8th grade reading level**
- The PDS should be completed by adults ages 18-70

Scoring Information

Hand Scoring

- Please review to make sure client has answered every item
- Please see PDS Hand-Scoring Directions booklet for scoring instruction details

Total Severity Score

- The PDS yields a total severity score (ranging from 0-51) that reflects the frequency of the 17 symptoms of PTSD



PDS® Quick Guide

Posttraumatic Stress Diagnostic Scale

Completed by adults ages 18-70, during the First and Last EBP Treatment Sessions, and every 6 months, if treatment continues, for the following EBP:

- Prolonged Exposure for PTSD (PE)

Clinical Utility

- Aids in diagnosis and treatment planning
- Useful for identifying client's concerns
- Helpful in determining duration of symptoms (acute vs. chronic)
- Identifies symptom severity
- Evaluates the client's level of functional impairment

Sections of the PDS

Part 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 12-item trauma inventory ▪ If client responds "no" to items 1-12, s/he does not need to complete the questionnaire and does not meet diagnostic criteria for PTSD
Part 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 8 items that parallel criteria A of DSM-IV PTSD diagnosis, identifying the traumatic event as well as the person's response to the event
Part 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assesses the intensity and frequency of the 17 DSM-IV PTSD symptoms clients may experience ▪ Symptoms are presented in the three symptom clusters listed in the DSM-IV, i.e., re-experiencing, avoidance, and arousal ▪ Respondents rate the severity of the symptom from 0 ("not at all or only one time") to 3 ("5 or more times a week/almost always") ▪ Evaluates the duration of the symptoms and the length of time between traumatic event and symptom onset
Part 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifies the functional impairment relative to the individual's symptoms

Scales

Level of Impairment in Functioning – Symptom Distress	Reveals whether or not client is reporting that his/her posttraumatic symptoms have interfered with his/her relationship with friends and family, work, fun or leisure activities, or client's general satisfaction with life in the past month
Number of Symptoms Endorsed	Reveals the total number of PTSD symptoms client endorsed
Symptom Severity Score	Reflects the severity of PTSD symptoms endorsed by client

Symptom Severity Score	Symptom Severity Rating
0	No Rating
1-10	Mild
11-20	Moderate
21-35	Moderate to Severe
36-51	Severe

Number of Omitted Items	Excessive Omits?
0-5	No
6-12	Yes, symptoms may be understated
13-36	Yes, results are questionable