

Four-Dimensional Symptom Questionnaire (4DSQ)

The following is a list of questions about various complaints and symptoms you may have. Each question refers to the complaints and symptoms that you had **in the past week (the past 7 days, including today)**. Complaints you had before then, but no longer had during the past week, do not count.

Please indicate for each complaint how often you noticed that you had it in the past week by putting an "X" in the box under the answer that is most appropriate.

| | no | sometimes | regularly | often | very often or constantly |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| During the past week, did you suffer from: | | | | | |
| 1. dizziness or feeling light-headed? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. painful muscles? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. fainting? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. neck pain? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. back pain? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. excessive sweating? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. palpitations? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. headache? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. a bloated feeling in the abdomen? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. blurred vision or spots in front of your eyes? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. shortness of breath? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. nausea or an upset stomach? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| During the past week, did you suffer from: | | | | | |
| 13. pain in the abdomen or stomach area? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. tingling in the fingers? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. pressure or a tight feeling in the chest? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. pain in the chest? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. feeling down or depressed? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. sudden fright for no reason? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. worry? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. disturbed sleep? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21. a vague feeling of fear? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22. lack of energy? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23. trembling when with other people? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24. anxiety or panic attacks? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| During the past week, did you feel: | | | | | |
| 25. tense? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26. easily irritated? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 27. frightened? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | no | sometimes | regularly | often | very often or constantly |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| During the past week, did you feel: | | | | | |
| 28. that everything is meaningless? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29. that you just can't do anything anymore? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30. that life is not worth while? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31. that you can no longer take any interest in the people and things around you? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 32. that you can't cope anymore? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 33. that you would be better off if you were dead? --- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 34. that you can't enjoy anything anymore? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 35. that there is no escape from your situation? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 36. that you can't face it anymore? -- ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| During the past week, did you: | | | | | |
| 37. no longer feel like doing anything? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 38. have difficulty in thinking clearly? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 39. have difficulty in getting to sleep? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 40. have any fear of going out of the house alone? --- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| During the past week: | | | | | |
| 41. did you easily become emotional? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 42. were you afraid of anything when there was really no need for you to be afraid? ----- (for instance animals, heights, small rooms) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 43. were you afraid to travel on buses, streetcars/ trams, subways or trains? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 44. were you afraid of becoming embarrassed when with other people? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 45. did you ever feel as if you were being threatened by unknown danger? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 46. did you ever think "I wish I was dead"? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 47. did you ever have fleeting images of any upsetting event(s) that you have experienced? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 48. did you ever have to do your best to put aside thoughts about any upsetting event(s)? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 49. did you have to avoid certain places because they frightened you? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 50. did you have to repeat some actions a number of times before you could do something else? ----- | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4DSQ scoring form

'no' = score 0

'sometimes' = score 1

'regularly' or more often = score 2

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 28 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 30 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 33 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 35 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 46 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 40 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | 42 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | 43 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 32 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | 44 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 36 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | 45 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 37 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | 49 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 38 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | 50 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 39 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 41 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 47 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 48 | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Distress | Depression | Anxiety | Somatisation | | | |
| | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | | | |

Interpretation:

moderately elevated: > 10

> 2

> 3

> 10

strongly elevated: > 20

> 5

> 8*

> 20

* cut-off point is adjusted to compensate for differential item functioning

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Validation status of the English translation of the 4DSQ

Validated, published,
with adjustment of the higher cut-off point of the anxiety scale

The English translation was validated in a Canadian sample of family medicine attendees and their data were compared with a Dutch sample of general practice attendees using confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) and differential item functioning (DIF) analysis. The English scales were as reliable as the Dutch scales (Cronbach's alphas between 0.82 and 0.92) and had the same validity as the Dutch scales. DIF was present in 7 items but impacted only the anxiety sum score. Lowering the higher cut-off for anxiety ensures that the cut-off retains the same meaning (with respect to ruling in anxiety disorder) as the Dutch cut-off. The English distress, depression and somatization scales measure the same constructs as the Dutch scales and use the same cut-off points.

Reference:

Terluin B, Smits N, Miedema B. The English version of the four-dimensional symptom questionnaire (4DSQ) measures the same as the original Dutch questionnaire: A validation study. *Eur J Gen Pract* 2014; Apr 29 [Epub ahead of print].

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