

Weiss Symptom Record (WSR) Instructions

Purpose

- To collect systematic information from the patient and other informants about various disorders, including learning, developmental and personality difficulties
- To serve as a cross check to assist clinicians in focusing their mental status, assuring that they do not miss relevant but unusual comorbidities, and in differentiating disorders which have significant symptom overlap
- This screener is not 'diagnostic'.

Unique Characteristics

- Since this symptom record can be completed by any informant, it enables a rapid comparison of symptom profiles across settings
- Items scored as 'pretty much' or 'very much' are in shaded columns so that quick scanning of the screener enables rapid identification of problematic symptom groupings
- Items are translated into simple language for ease of use
- Item selection attempted to assure not only sensitivity to identification of comorbid disorders, but also selection of items that would assist in differentiating those symptoms that are specific to one disorder and assist in differentiating it from another overlapping problem
- The formulation of items on the Weiss Symptom Record was based on DSM-IV criteria.¹

Scoring

This is not a psychometrically validated instrument but a clinical record of the DSM-IV criteria for various disorders. The DSM-IV criteria for diagnosis for each disorder are listed in the column labelled 'Diagnosis'. Answers should be scored as follows: Not at all = 0, Somewhat = 1, Pretty Much = 2, Very Much = 3.

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¹ In the development of this screener DSM-IV diagnostic criteria were used with permission of the American Psychiatric Press.



Patient Name:

Date of Birth:

Physician Name:

MRN/File No:

Date:

Weiss Symptom Record (WSR)

<i>Instructions to Informant: Check the box that best describes typical behavior</i> <i>Instructions to Physician: Symptoms rated 2 or 3 are positive and total count completed below</i>	Not at all (0)	Somewhat (1)	Pretty much (2)	Very much (3)	N/A	# items scored 2 or 3 (DSM Criteria)
ADHD COMBINED TYPE 314.01						≥6/9 IA & HI
ATTENTION 314.00						
Fails to give close attention to details, careless mistakes						
Difficulty sustaining attention in tasks or fun activities						
Does not seem to listen when spoken to directly						
Does not follow through on instructions and fails to finish work						
Difficult organizing tasks and activities						
Avoids tasks that require sustained mental effort (boring)						
Losing things						
Easily distracted						
Forgetful in daily activities						/9 (≥6/9)
HYPERACTIVE/IMPULSIVE 314.01						
Fidgety or squirms in seat						
Leaves seat when sitting is expected						
Feels restless						
Difficulty in doing fun things quietly						
Always on the go or acts as if "driven by a motor"						
Talks excessively						
Blurts answers before questions have been completed						
Difficulty awaiting turn						
Interrupting or intruding on others						/9 (≥6/9)
OPPOSITIONAL DEFIANT DISORDER 313.81						
Loses temper						
Argues with adults						
Actively defies or refuses to comply with requests or rules						
Deliberately annoys people						
Blames others for his or her mistakes or misbehaviour						
Touchy or easily annoyed by others						
Angry or resentful						
Spiteful or vindictive						/8 (≥4/8)

	Not at all (0)	Somewhat (1)	Pretty much (2)	Very much (3)	N/A	Diagnoses
TIC DISORDERS 307.2						SEVERITY
Repetitive involuntary movements (blinking, twitching)						
Repetitive involuntary noises (throat clearing, sniffing)						
CONDUCT DISORDER 312.8						
Bullies, threatens, or intimidates others						
Initiates physical fights						
Has used a weapon (bat, brick, bottle, knife, gun)						
Physically cruel to people						
Physically cruel to animals						
Stolen while confronting a victim						
Forced someone into sexual activity						
Fire setting with the intent of damage						
Deliberately destroyed others' property						
Broken into a house, building, or car						
Often lies to obtain goods or benefits or avoid obligations						
Stealing items of nontrivial value without confronting victim						
Stays out at night despite prohibitions						
Run away from home overnight at least twice						
Truant from school						/15(≥3/15)
ANXIETY						
Worries about health, loved ones, catastrophe						300.02
Unable to relax; nervous						300.81
Chronic unexplained aches and pains						300.30
Repetitive thoughts that make no sense						
Repetitive rituals						300.01
Sudden panic attacks with intense anxiety						300.23
Excessively shy						
Refusal to do things in front of others						309.21
Refusal to go to school, work or separate from others						300.29
Unreasonable fears that interfere with activities						312.39
Pulls out hair, eyebrows						
Nail biting, picking						
Refusal to talk in public, but talks at home						mutism
DEPRESSION 296.2 (single) .3 (recurrent)						
Has been feeling sad, unhappy or depressed		Yes	No			Must be present
No interest or pleasure in life		Yes	No			Must be present
Feels worthless						
Has decreased energy and less productive						
Hopeless and pessimistic about the future						
Excessive feelings of guilt or self blame						
Self-injurious or suicidal thoughts						

	Not at all (0)	Somewhat (1)	Pretty much (2)	Very much (3)	N/A	Diagnoses
DEPRESSION (CONT'D)						SEVERITY
Social withdrawal						
Weight loss or weight gain						
Change in sleep patterns						≥5/9>2wks
Agitated or sluggish, slowed down						
Decreased concentration or indecisiveness						
Past suicide attempts	#	Serious				
MANIA 296.0(manic) .6(mixes) .5(depressed)						
Distinct period of consistent elevated or irritable mood	Yes	No	Must be present			
Grandiose, sudden increase in self esteem						
Decreased need for sleep						
Racing thoughts						
Too talkative and speech seems pressured						
Sudden increase in goal directed activity, agitated						≥3 >1wk
High risk activities (spending money, promiscuity)						/3 (≥3)
SOCIAL SKILLS 299						
Makes poor eye contact or unusual body language						
Failure to make peer relationships						
Lack of spontaneous sharing of enjoyment						
Lacks reciprocity or sensitivity to emotional needs of others						
Language delay or lack of language communication						
Difficulty communicating, conversing with others						
Speaks in an odd, idiosyncratic or monotonous speech						
Lack of creative, imaginative play or social imitation						
Intensely fixated on one particular interest						
Rigid sticking to nonfunctional routines or rituals						
Preoccupied with objects and parts of objects						
Repetitive motor mannerisms (hand flapping, spinning)						
PSYCHOSIS 295						
Has disorganized, illogical thoughts						
Hears voices or sees things						
Conviction that others are against or will hurt them						
People can read their thoughts, or vice versa						
Belief that the television is talking specifically to them						
A fixed belief that is out of touch with reality						
Thought sequence does not make sense						

	Not at all (0)	Somewhat (1)	Pretty much (2)	Very much (3)	N/A	Diagnoses
SUBSTANCE ABUSE						SEVERITY
Excessive alcohol (> 2 drinks/day, > 4 drinks at once)						305
Smokes cigarettes						
Daily marijuana use						
Use of any other street drugs						
Abuse of prescription drugs						
SLEEP DISORDERS 307.4						
Agitated or sluggish, slowed down						
Has difficulty falling asleep						
Has difficulty staying asleep						
Has abnormal sleep patterns during the day						347
Unanticipated falling asleep during the day						307.4
Sleep walking						307.4
Has nightmares						307.45
Falls asleep late and sleeps in late						3.27
Sleep schedule changes from day to day						
Excessive snoring						
A feeling of restless legs while trying to sleep						
Observed to have sudden kicking while asleep						780.57
Observed to have difficulty breathing at night						
ELIMINATION DISORDERS 307						
Wets the bed at night						
Wets during the day						
Soils self						
EATING DISORDERS 307						
Vomits after meals or bingeing						
Underweight and refuses to eat						307.1
Distorted body image						
Picky eater						
High junk food diet						
LEARNING DISABILITIES 315						
Delayed expressive language						
Stuttering						
Problems articulating words						315
Below grade level in reading						315.1
Below grade level in math						315.2
Trouble with writing (messy, tiring, avoids writing)						
Variable performance in school						
Underachieves at school relative to potential						315.4

	Not at all (0)	Somewhat (1)	Pretty much (2)	Very much (3)	N/A	Diagnoses
DEVELOPMENTAL COORDINATION DISORDER						
Difficulty with gross motor skills (i.e. gym, sports, biking)						
Clumsy						
Difficulty with fine motor (buttons, shoe laces, cutting)						
PERSONALITY 301						SEVERITY
Unstable interpersonal relationships						
Frantic efforts to avoid abandonment						
Recurrent suicidal ideation or attempts						
Intense anger						
Major mood swings						BPD 301.83
Impulsive self destructive or self injurious behavior						
Fragile identity or self image						
Chronic feelings of emptiness						
Transient stress related dissociation or paranoia						/9 (≥5/9)
Self centred or entitled						NPD 301.81
Deceitful, aggressive, or lack of remorse						ASP 301.7
COMMENTS:						

ADHD=attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; IA=inattentive subtype; HI=hyperactive impulsive subtype; BPD=borderline personality disorder; NPD=narcissistic personality disorder; ASP=antisocial personality disorder.

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