

Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Functional Index (BASFI)

Category: Rheumatology | Items: 10 | Time: ~2-3 min

Description / When to Use

Functional limitation in ankylosing spondylitis

Instructions for Respondent

Please read each statement carefully and respond based on how you have felt over the specified time period. There are 10 items in this scale. Estimated completion time: 2-3 min.

Scale Items

1. Putting on your socks or tights without help / aids (0 = easy -> 10 = impossible)
2. Bending forward from the waist to pick up a pen from the floor without an aid
3. Reaching up to a high shelf without help / aids
4. Getting up out of an armless dining-room chair without using your hands or any other help
5. Getting up off the floor without help from lying on your back
6. Standing unsupported for 10 minutes without discomfort
7. Climbing 12–15 steps without using a handrail or walking aid (one foot per step)
8. Looking over your shoulder without turning your body
9. Doing physically demanding activities (physiotherapy, gardening, sports)
10. Doing a full day's activities, whether at home or at work

Scoring Guide

Computed via formula. See original publication for details.

Cutoff Interpretation

Score Range	Severity	Recommended Action
0–2.5	Minimal limitation	Functional impact is small.
2.6–5	Mild limitation	Mild functional restriction.
5.1–7.5	Moderate limitation	Significant functional restriction.
7.6–10	Severe limitation	Major functional impairment; comprehensive care indicated.

Psychometric Properties

See original validation study for reliability and validity data.

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Citation (APA Format)

Calin A et al. A new approach to defining functional ability in ankylosing spondylitis. *J Rheumatol.* 1994;21(12):2281-2285.

Disclaimer: BASFI = mean of 10 items, each scored 0 (easy) – 10 (impossible). Range 0–10.