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Brief Description of Instrument – Assesses levels of social dependence in patients with progressive disease/chronic illness.

Administration time – 4-30 minutes.

Scale Format – 12 item, 6-point scale.

Administration Technique – Interview administered, along with observation for measurement of social competence capacity.

Scoring and Interpretation – Sum item responses. Higher scores indicate greater enforced dependency.
Factors and Norms – Three capacities: everyday self-care including bathing, dressing, eating and toileting; mobility including walking, stair climbing, transferring and traveling; and social competence which includes consciousness, role activity, social interaction and social interest. Scale descriptive reported in original citation.

Inter-rater Reliability – 95% inter-rater reliability for all items.

Internal Consistency – Reliability coefficient for entire scale, 0.90. Reliability coefficient for everyday self-care 0.79, mobility 0.82, social competence 0.78.

Content & Face Validity – Scale developed through a pilot study of concerns of patients with cancer, review of existing tools and literature review.

Limitations – Requires further testing on a larger sample to further explore psychometrics.

Notes for Consideration – In discussion authors suggest tool could be completed by family members and other informal caregivers.

Naylor MD, Brooten D, Campbell R, Jacobsen BS, Mezey MD, Pauly MV, Schwartz JS. Comprehensive discharge planning and home follow-up of hospitalized elders: a randomized clinical trial. JAMA. 1999 Feb 17;281(7):613-20. FREE full-text available
Naylor MD, McCauley KM. The effects of a discharge planning and home follow-up intervention on elders hospitalized with common medical and surgical cardiac conditions. J Cardiovasc