

# BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A)

## QS = QUESTIONNAIRES

QSCAT = BPRS-A

### BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A):

(Page 1 of 10)

Date of  
(dd-MMM-yyyy):    -    -   

QSDTC

QSEVLINT = -P1W

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Indicate the appropriate scale point for each item by **marking X** in the appropriate numbered box. Do not leave any items blank. Introduce all questions with "During the past week have you ..."

**\*1. SOMATIC CONCERN:** Degree of concern over present bodily health. Rate the degree to which physical health is perceived as a problem by the patient, whether complaints have a realistic basis or not. Do not rate mere reporting of somatic symptoms. Rate only concern for (or worrying about) physical problems (real or imagined). **Rate on the basis of reported (i.e., subjective) information pertaining to the past week.**

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: occasionally is somewhat concerned about body, symptoms, or physical illness
- ☐ 3 = Mild: occasionally is moderately concerned, or often is somewhat concerned
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: occasionally is very concerned, or often is moderately concerned
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: often is very concerned
- ☐ 6 = Severe: is very concerned most of the time
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: is very concerned nearly all of the time
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0101

**\*2. ANXIETY:** Worry, fear, or overconcern for present or future. **Rate solely on the basis of verbal report of patient's own subjective experiences pertaining to the past week.** Do not infer anxiety from physical signs or from neurotic defense mechanisms. Do not rate if restricted to somatic concern.

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: occasionally feels somewhat anxious
- ☐ 3 = Mild: occasionally feels moderately anxious, or often feels somewhat anxious
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: occasionally feels very anxious, or often feels moderately anxious
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: often feels very anxious
- ☐ 6 = Severe: feels very anxious most of the time
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: feels very anxious nearly all of the time
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness, or Not assessed

QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0102

\*Note at end of table.

## BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A):

(Page 2 of 10)

**3. EMOTIONAL WITHDRAWAL:**

Deficiency in relating to the interviewer and to the interview situation. Overt manifestations of this deficiency include poor/absence of eye contact, failure to orient oneself physically toward the interviewer, and a general lack of involvement or engagement in the interview. Distinguish from BLUNTED AFFECT, in which deficits in facial expression, body gesture, and voice pattern are scored. **Rate on the basis of observations made during the interview.**

- ☐ 1 = Not observed **QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0103**
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: e.g., occasionally exhibits poor eye contact
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., as above, but more frequent
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., exhibits little eye contact, but still seems engaged in the interview and is appropriately responsive to all questions.
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., stares at floor or orients self away from interviewer, but still seems moderately engaged.
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., as above, but more persistent or pervasive
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., appears "spacey" or "out of it" (total absence of emotional relatedness), and is disproportionately uninvolved or unengaged in the interview. (DO NOT SCORE IF EXPLAINED BY DISORIENTATION.)

**4. CONCEPTUAL**

**DISORGANIZATION:** Degree of speech incomprehensibility. Include any type of formal thought disorder (e.g., loose associations, incoherence, flight of ideas, neologisms). DO NOT include mere circumstantiality or pressured speech, even if marked. DO NOT rate on the basis of the patient's subjective impressions (e.g., "my thoughts are racing. I can't hold a thought", "my thinking gets all mixed up"). **Rate ONLY on the basis of observations made during the interview.**

- ☐ 1 = Not observed **QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0104**
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: e.g., somewhat vague, but of doubtful clinical significance
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., frequently vague, but the interview is able to progress smoothly; occasional loosening of associations
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., occasional irrelevant statements, infrequent use of neologisms, or moderate loosening of associations
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., as above, but more frequent
- ☐ 6 = Severe: formal thought disorder is present for most of the interview, and the interview is severely strained
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: very little coherent information can be obtained

**\*5. GUILT FEELINGS:** Overconcern or remorse for past behavior. **Rate on the basis of the patient's subjective experiences of guilt as evidenced by verbal report pertaining to the past week.** Do not infer guilt feelings from depression, anxiety, or neurotic defenses.

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: occasionally feels somewhat guilty
- ☐ 3 = Mild: occasionally feels moderately guilty, or often feels somewhat guilty
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: occasionally feels very guilty, or often feels moderately guilty
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: often feels very guilty
- ☐ 6 = Severe: feels very guilty most of the time, or encapsulated delusion of guilt
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: agonizing constant feelings of guilt, or pervasive delusion(s) of guilt
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0105**

**6. TENSION:** Rate motor restlessness (agitation) observed during the interview. DO NOT rate on the basis of subjective experiences reported by the patient. Disregard suspected pathogenesis (e.g., tardive dyskinesia).

- ☐ 1 = Not observed
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: e.g., occasionally fidgets
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., frequently fidgets
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., constantly fidgets, or frequently fidgets, wrings hands and pulls clothing
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., constantly fidgets, wrings hands and pulls clothing
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., cannot remain seated (i.e., must pace)
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., paces in a frantic manner

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0106**

\*Note at end of table.

## BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A):

(Page 4 of 10)

**7. MANNERISMS AND**

**POSTURING:** Unusual and unnatural motor behavior. **Rate only abnormality of movements.** Do not rate simple heightened motor activity here. Consider frequency, duration, and degree of bizarreness. Disregard suspected pathogenesis.

- ☐ 1 = Not observed **QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0107**
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: odd behavior but of doubtful clinical significance, e.g., occasional unprompted smiling, infrequent lip movements
- ☐ 3 = Mild: strange behavior but not obviously bizarre, e.g., infrequent head-tilting (side to side) in a rhythmic fashion, intermittent abnormal finger movements
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., assumes unnatural position for a brief period of time, infrequent tongue protrusions, rocking, facial grimacing
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., assumes and maintains unnatural position throughout interview, unusual movements in several body areas
- ☐ 6 = Severe: as above, but more frequent, intense, or pervasive
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., bizarre posturing throughout most of the interview, continuous abnormal movements in several body areas

**\*8. GRANDIOSITY:** Inflated self-esteem (self-confidence), or inflated appraisal of one's talents, powers, abilities, accomplishments, knowledge, importance, or identity. Do not score mere grandiose *quality* of claims (e.g., "I'm the worst sinner in the world," "The entire country is trying to kill me") unless the guilt/persecution is related to some special exaggerated attributes of the individual. Also, *the patient* must claim exaggerated attributes: e.g., if patient denies talents, powers, etc., even if he or she states that *others* indicate that he/she has these attributes, this item should not be scored. **Rate on the basis of reported (i.e., subjective) information pertaining to the past week.**

- ☐ 1 = Not reported **QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0108**
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: e.g., is more confident than most people, but of only possible clinical significance
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., definitely inflated self-esteem or exaggerates talents somewhat out of proportion to the circumstances
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., inflated self-esteem clearly out of proportion to the circumstances, or suspected grandiose delusion(s)
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., a single (definite) encapsulated grandiose delusion, or multiple (definite) fragmentary grandiose delusions
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., a single (definite) grandiose delusion/delusional system, or multiple (definite) grandiose delusions that the patient seems preoccupied with
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., as above, but nearly all conversation is directed toward the patient's grandiose delusion(s)
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

\*Note at end of table.

## BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A):

(Page 5 of 10)

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0109**

**\*9. DEPRESSIVE MOOD:** Subjective report of feeling depressed, blue, "down in the dumps," etc. Rate only degree of reported depression. Do not rate on the basis of inferences concerning depression based upon general retardation and somatic complaints. **Rate on the basis of reported (i.e., subjective) information pertaining to the past week.**

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: occasionally feels somewhat depressed
- ☐ 3 = Mild: occasionally feels moderately depressed, or often feels somewhat depressed
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: occasionally feels very depressed, or often feels moderately depressed
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: often feels very depressed
- ☐ 6 = Severe: feels very depressed most of the time
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: feels very depressed nearly all of the time
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0110**

**\* 10. HOSTILITY:** Animosity, contempt, belligerence, disdain for other people outside the interview situation. **Rate solely on the basis of the verbal report of feelings and actions of the patient toward others during the past week.** Do not infer hostility from neurotic defenses, anxiety, or somatic complaints.

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: occasionally feels somewhat angry
- ☐ 3 = Mild: often feels somewhat angry, or occasionally feels moderately angry
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: occasionally feels very angry, or often feels moderately angry
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: often feels very angry
- ☐ 6 = Severe: has acted on his anger by becoming verbally or physically abusive on one or two occasions
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: has acted on his anger on several occasions
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

\*Note at end of table.

BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A):

(Page 6 of 10)

QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0111

**\*11. SUSPICIOUSNESS:** Belief (delusional or otherwise) that others have now, or have had in the past, malicious or discriminatory intent toward the patient. On the basis of verbal report, rate only those suspicions which are currently held whether they concern past or present circumstances.  
**Rate on the basis of reported (i.e., subjective) information pertaining to the past week.**

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: rare instances of distrustfulness which may or may not be warranted by the situation
- ☐ 3 = Mild: occasional instances of suspiciousness that are definitely not warranted by the situation
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: more frequent suspiciousness, or transient ideas of reference
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: pervasive suspiciousness, frequent ideas of reference, or an encapsulated delusion
- ☐ 6 = Severe: definite delusion(s) of reference or persecution that is (are) not wholly pervasive (e.g., an encapsulated delusion)
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: as above, but more widespread, frequent, or intense
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

\*Note at end of table.

QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0112

**\*12. HALLUCINATORY BEHAVIOR:**

Perceptions (in any sensory modality) in the absence of an identifiable external stimulus. **Rate only those experiences that have occurred during the last week.** DO NOT rate "voices in my head," or "visions in my mind" unless the patient can differentiate between these experiences and his or her thoughts.

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: suspected hallucinations only
- ☐ 3 = Mild: definite hallucinations, but insignificant, infrequent, or transient (e.g., occasional formless visual hallucinations, a voice calling the patient's name)
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: as above, but more frequent or extensive (e.g., frequently sees the devil's face, two voices carry on lengthy conversations)
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: hallucinations are experienced nearly every day, or are a source of extreme distress
- ☐ 6 = Severe: as above, and has had a moderate impact on the patient's behavior (e.g., concentration difficulties leading to impaired work functioning)
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: as above, and has had a severe impact (e.g., attempts suicide in response to command hallucinations)
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

\*Note at end of table.

## BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A)

### BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A)

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0113**

**13. MOTOR RETARDATION:** Reduction in energy level evidenced in slowed movements. **Rate on the basis of observed behavior of the patient only.** Do not rate on the basis of the patient's subjective impression of his or her own energy level.

- ☐ 1 = Not observed
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild and of doubtful clinical significance
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., conversation is somewhat retarded, movements somewhat slowed
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., conversation is noticeably retarded but not strained
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., conversation is strained, moves very slowly
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., conversation is difficult to maintain, hardly moves at all
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., conversation is almost impossible, does not move at all throughout the interview

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0114**

**14. UNCOOPERATIVENESS:** Evidence of resistance, unfriendliness, resentment, and lack of readiness to cooperate with the interviewer. **Rate only on the basis of the patient's attitude and responses to the interviewer and the interview situation.** Do not rate on the basis of reported resentment or uncooperativeness outside the interview situation.

- ☐ 1 = Not observed
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: e.g., does not seem motivated
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., seems evasive in certain areas
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., monosyllabic, fails to elaborate spontaneously, somewhat unfriendly
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., expresses resentment and is unfriendly throughout the interview
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., refuses to answer a number of questions
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., refuses to answer most questions



## BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A)

(Page 9 of 10)

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0115****\*15. UNUSUAL THOUGHT CONTENT:**

Severity of delusions of any type - consider conviction and effect on actions. Assume full conviction if patient has acted on his or her beliefs. **Rate on the basis of reported (i.e., subjective) information pertaining to past week.**

- ☐ 1 = Not reported
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: delusion(s) suspected or likely
- ☐ 3 = Mild: at times, patient questions his or her belief(s) (partial delusion)
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: full delusional conviction, but delusion(s) has little or no influence on behavior
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: full delusional conviction, but delusion(s) has only occasional impact on behavior
- ☐ 6 = Severe: delusion(s) has significant effect, e.g., neglects responsibilities because of preoccupation with belief that he/she is God
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: delusion(s) has major impact, e.g., stops eating because believes food is poisoned
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0116**

**16. BLUNTED AFFECT:** Diminished affective responsivity, as characterized by deficits in facial expression, body gesture, and voice pattern. Distinguish from EMOTIONAL WITHDRAWAL, in which the focus is on interpersonal impairment rather than affect. Consider degree and consistency of impairment. **Rate based on observations made during interview.**

- ☐ 1 = Not observed
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: e.g., occasionally seems indifferent to material that is usually accompanied by some show of emotion
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., somewhat diminished facial expression *or* somewhat monotonous voice *or* somewhat restricted gestures
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., as above, but more intense, prolonged, or frequent
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., flattening of affect, including at least *two* of the three features: severe lack of facial expression, monotonous voice, or restricted body gestures
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., profound flattening of affect
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., totally monotonous voice, *and* total lack of expressive gestures throughout the evaluation

\*Note at end of table.

## BRIEF PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE-ANCHORED (BPRS-A):

(Page 10 of 10)

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0117**

**17. EXCITEMENT:** Heightened emotional tone, including irritability and expansiveness (hypomanic affect). Do not infer affect from statements of grandiose delusions. **Rate based on observations made during interview.**

- ☐ 1 = Not observed
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild and of doubtful clinical significance
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., irritable or expansive at times
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., frequently irritable or expansive
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., constantly irritable or expansive; or, at times, enraged or euphoric
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., enraged or euphoric throughout most of the interview
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., as above, but to such a degree that the interview must be terminated prematurely

**QSORRES when QSTESTCD = BPR0118**

**18. DISORIENTATION:** Confusion or lack of proper association for person, place, or time. **Rate based on observations made during interview**

- ☐ 1 = Not observed
- ☐ 2 = Very Mild: e.g., seems somewhat confused
- ☐ 3 = Mild: e.g., indicated 1982 when, in fact, it is 1983
- ☐ 4 = Moderate: e.g., indicates 1978
- ☐ 5 = Moderately Severe: e.g., is unsure where he/she is
- ☐ 6 = Severe: e.g., has no idea where he/she is
- ☐ 7 = Very Severe: e.g., does not know who he/she is
- ☐ 9 = Cannot be assessed adequately because of severe formal thought disorder, uncooperativeness, or marked evasiveness/guardedness; or Not assessed

\*Ratings based primarily upon verbal report.

---