

The APA is offering a number of “emerging measures” for further research and clinical evaluation. These patient assessment measures were developed to be administered at the initial patient interview and to monitor treatment progress. They should be used in research and evaluation as potentially useful tools to enhance clinical decision-making and not as the sole basis for making a clinical diagnosis. Instructions, scoring information, and interpretation guidelines are provided; further background information can be found in DSM-5. The APA requests that clinicians and researchers provide further data on the instruments’ usefulness in characterizing patient status and improving patient care at <http://www.dsm5.org/Pages/Feedback-Form.aspx>.

Measure: DSM-5 Parent/Guardian-Rated Level 1 Cross-Cutting Symptom Measure—Child Age 6–17

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DSM-5 Parent/Guardian-Rated Level 1 Cross-Cutting Symptom Measure—Child Age 6–17

Child's Name: _____

Age: _____

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Date: _____

Relationship with the child: _____

Instructions (to the parent or guardian of child): The questions below ask about things that might have bothered your child. For each question, circle the number that best describes how much (or how often) your child has been bothered by each problem during the **past TWO (2) WEEKS**.

		None Not at all	Slight Rare, less than a day or two	Mild Several days	Moderate More than half the days	Severe Nearly every day	Highest Domain Score (clinician)
	During the past TWO (2) WEEKS , how much (or how often) has your child...						
I.	1. Complained of stomachaches, headaches, or other aches and pains?	0	1	2	3	4	
	2. Said he/she was worried about his/her health or about getting sick?	0	1	2	3	4	
II.	3. Had problems sleeping—that is, trouble falling asleep, staying asleep, or waking up too early?	0	1	2	3	4	
III.	4. Had problems paying attention when he/she was in class or doing his/her homework or reading a book or playing a game?	0	1	2	3	4	
IV.	5. Had less fun doing things than he/she used to?	0	1	2	3	4	
	6. Seemed sad or depressed for several hours?	0	1	2	3	4	
V. & VI.	7. Seemed more irritated or easily annoyed than usual?	0	1	2	3	4	
	8. Seemed angry or lost his/her temper?	0	1	2	3	4	
VII.	9. Started lots more projects than usual or did more risky things than usual?	0	1	2	3	4	
	10. Slept less than usual for him/her, but still had lots of energy?	0	1	2	3	4	
VIII.	11. Said he/she felt nervous, anxious, or scared?	0	1	2	3	4	
	12. Not been able to stop worrying?	0	1	2	3	4	
	13. Said he/she couldn't do things he/she wanted to or should have done, because they made him/her feel nervous?	0	1	2	3	4	
IX.	14. Said that he/she heard voices—when there was no one there—speaking about him/her or telling him/her what to do or saying bad things to him/her?	0	1	2	3	4	
	15. Said that he/she had a vision when he/she was completely awake—that is, saw something or someone that no one else could see?	0	1	2	3	4	
X.	16. Said that he/she had thoughts that kept coming into his/her mind that he/she would do something bad or that something bad would happen to him/her or to someone else?	0	1	2	3	4	
	17. Said he/she felt the need to check on certain things over and over again, like whether a door was locked or whether the stove was turned off?	0	1	2	3	4	
	18. Seemed to worry a lot about things he/she touched being dirty or having germs or being poisoned?	0	1	2	3	4	
	19. Said that he/she had to do things in a certain way, like counting or saying special things out loud, in order to keep something bad from happening?	0	1	2	3	4	
	In the past TWO (2) WEEKS , has your child ...						
XI.	20. Had an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know			
	21. Smoked a cigarette, a cigar, or pipe, or used snuff or chewing tobacco?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know			
	22. Used drugs like marijuana, cocaine or crack, club drugs (like ecstasy), hallucinogens (like LSD), heroin, inhalants or solvents (like glue), or methamphetamine (like speed)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know			
	23. Used any medicine without a doctor's prescription (e.g., painkillers [like Vicodin], stimulants [like Ritalin or Adderall], sedatives or tranquilizers [like sleeping pills or Valium], or steroids)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know			

XII.	24.	In the past TWO (2) WEEKS , has he/she talked about wanting to kill himself/herself or about wanting to commit suicide?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know	
	25.	Has he/she EVER tried to kill himself/herself?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know	

Instructions to Clinicians

The DSM-5 Parent/Guardian-Rated Level 1 Cross-Cutting Symptom Measure—Child Age 6–17 assesses mental health domains that are important across psychiatric diagnoses. It is intended to help clinicians identify additional areas of inquiry that may have significant impact on the child’s treatment and prognosis. The measure may also be used to track changes in the child’s symptom presentation over time.

The measure consists of 25 questions that assess 12 psychiatric domains, including depression, anger, irritability, mania, anxiety, somatic symptoms, inattention, suicidal ideation/attempt, psychosis, sleep disturbance, repetitive thoughts and behaviors, and substance use. Each item asks the parent or guardian to rate how much (or how often) his or her child has been bothered by the specific symptom during the past 2 weeks. The measure was found to be clinically useful and had good test-retest reliability in the DSM-5 Field Trials in pediatric clinical samples across the United States.

Scoring and Interpretation

Nineteen of the 25 items on the measure are each rated on a 5-point scale (0=none or not at all; 1=slight or rare, less than a day or two; 2=mild or several days; 3=moderate or more than half the days; and 4=severe or nearly every day). The suicidal ideation, suicide attempt, and substance abuse items are each rated on a “Yes, No, or Don’t Know” scale. The score on each item within a domain should be reviewed. Because additional inquiry is based on the highest score on any item within a domain, the clinician is asked to indicate that score in the “Highest Domain Score” column. Table 1 (below) outlines threshold scores that may be used to guide further inquiry for each domain. With the exception of inattention and psychosis, a rating of mild (i.e., 2) or greater on any item within a domain that is scored on the 5-point scale may serve as a guide for additional inquiry and follow-up to determine if a more detailed assessment for that domain is needed. A parent or guardian’s rating of “Don’t Know” on the suicidal ideation, suicide attempt, and any of the substance use items, especially for a child age 11–17, may be used as a guide for additional inquiry of the issues with the child. The DSM-5 Level 2 Cross-Cutting Symptom measures in Table 1 may be used as a resource to provide more detailed information on the symptoms associated with some of the Level 1 domains.

Frequency of Use

To track change in the child’s symptom presentation over time, the measure may be completed at regular intervals as clinically indicated, depending on the stability of the child’s symptoms and treatment status, and preferably by the same parent or guardian. Consistently high scores on a particular domain may indicate significant and problematic symptoms for the child that might warrant further assessment, treatment, and follow-up. Clinical judgment should guide decision making.

Table 1: DSM-5 Parent/Guardian-Rated Level 1 Cross-Cutting Symptom Measure—Child Age 6–17: domains, thresholds for further inquiry, and associated Level 2 measures

Domain	Domain Name	Threshold to guide further inquiry	DSM-5 Level 2 Cross-Cutting Symptom Measure available online
I.	Somatic Symptoms	Mild or greater	LEVEL 2—Somatic Symptom—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (Patient Health Questionnaire 15 Somatic Symptom Severity (PHQ-15))
II.	Sleep Problems	Mild or greater	LEVEL 2—Sleep Disturbance—Parent/ Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (PROMIS—Sleep Disturbance—Short Form) ¹
III.	Inattention	Slight or greater	LEVEL 2—Inattention—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (SNAP-IV)
IV.	Depression	Mild or greater	LEVEL 2—Depression—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (PROMIS Emotional Distress—Depression—Parent Item Bank)
V.	Anger	Mild or greater	LEVEL 2—Anger—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (PROMIS Emotional Distress—Calibrated Anger Measure—Parent)
VI.	Irritability	Mild or greater	LEVEL 2—Irritability—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (Affective Reactivity Index)
VII.	Mania	Mild or greater	LEVEL 2—Mania—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (adapted from the Altman Self-Rating Mania Scale)
VIII.	Anxiety	Mild or greater	LEVEL 2—Anxiety—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (adapted from PROMIS Emotional Distress—Anxiety—Parent Item Bank)
IX.	Psychosis	Slight or greater	None
X.	Repetitive Thoughts and Behaviors	Mild or greater	None
XI.	Substance Use	Yes/ Don’t Know	LEVEL 2—Substance Use—Parent/Guardian of Child Age 6–17 (adapted from the NIDA-modified ASSIST)/LEVEL 2—Substance Use—Child Age 11–17 (adapted from the NIDA-modified ASSIST)
XII.	Suicidal Ideation/ Suicide Attempts	Yes/ Don’t Know	None

¹Not validated for children by the PROMIS group but found to have acceptable test-retest reliability with parent informants in the DSM-5 Field Trial.