

The Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia

The Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia (CDSS) was developed to assess the level of depression in schizophrenia. It is the only depression scale designed for the assessment of depression in schizophrenia and it differentiates between depression and the negative and positive symptoms of schizophrenia. It has been extensively evaluated in both relapsed and remitted patients and is sensitive to change.

The Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia (CDSS) is a nine item structured interview scale that was designed in 1990 specifically to assess depression independently of symptoms of psychosis in schizophrenia.

The CDSS consists of eight structured questions and a ninth observational item that depends on observation over the course of the interview. Items were constructed to measure: 1. Depression; 2. Hopelessness; 3. Self-deprecation (modesty about or criticism of oneself); 4. Guilty ideas; 5. Pathological guilt; 6. Morning depression; 7. Early waking; 8. Suicidal ideation; and 9. Observed depression.

Items are graded on a 4-point Likert type scale (0, absent; 1, mild; 2, moderate; 3, severe), anchored by descriptors (Donald Addington et al., 1992). Point scores of all nine items are summed to obtain the CDS depression score. A score higher than 6 has an 82% specificity and 85% sensitivity for predicting the presence of a major depressive episode.

Settings

- Used in clinical populations of patients with depression in schizophrenia (DSM-III-R, DSM-IV, and 5)
- Focused on maximizing internal and external validity across inpatients and outpatients
- Has been translated into 40 languages. Validated in: Arabic, Spanish, German, Chinese, Thai, Brazilian, Greek, French

Calgary Depression Scale (CDS), a depression rating scale for schizophrenics. The specificity (spec-eh-fi-ci-tee) is the degree to which the scale assesses depression rather than negative or extrapyramidal symptoms(**side effects**: Physical **symptoms**, including tremor, slurred speech, akathisia, dystonia, anxiety, distress, paranoia).