Scoring Instructions. Item response categories are 1 = Not at all to 5 = Extremely, and scoring for this Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) screen is 2-tiered based on the total score for summed responses as well as the pattern of responses. Specifically, a positive PTSD diagnosis requires a total score greater than 43 (see Blanchard, Jones-Alexander, Buckley, & Forneris, 1996) as well as having a profile of “endorsed” items from each subscale included in the PTSD Checklist (PCL-C; see Weathers, Litz, Huska, & Keane, 1994). Clinically, these represent the relevant DSM-IV diagnosis clusters (i.e., B, C, and D). Scoring procedures are as follows.

1. A total score for the screen is computed by summing responses to all 17 items, resulting in values ranging potentially from 17-85.
2. The endorsement criteria for item responses are defined by threshold levels below--
   a. cut scores for item endorsements are shown for each question; i.e., [≥ 3] or [≥ 4];
   b. designate each item at or above its own cut-score threshold (i.e, “endorsed”).
3. The endorsement pattern classification is measured by item counts as listed below--
   a. at least 1 item must be “endorsed” from Re-experiencing (Q1-5);
   b. at least 3 items must be “endorsed” from Avoidance (Q6–12); and
   c. at least 2 items must be “endorsed” from Hyperarousal (Q13–17).
4. A positive PTSD diagnosis requires a total score greater than 43 and a positive endorsement pattern for all 3 scales as specified above (e.g., a total score of 35 and endorsement pattern only for Hyperarousal would not qualify for a positive PTSD diagnosis).

PTSD Screen: Item Response “Endorsement” Thresholds Within Subscales

A. Re-experiencing stressful memories (endorsement required of at least 1 item)
   1. Repeated, disturbing memories, thoughts, or images of a stressful experience? [≥ 4]
   3. Suddenly acting or feeling as if a stressful experience were happening again (as if you were reliving it)? [≥ 3]
   5. Having physical reactions (e.g., heart pounding, trouble breathing, sweating) when reminded of a stressful experience? [≥ 3]

B. Avoidance of stressful memories (endorsement required of at least 3 items)
   6. Avoiding thinking about or talking about a stressful experience or avoiding having feelings related to it? [≥ 3]
   7. Avoiding activities or situations because they reminded you of a stressful experience? [≥ 3]
   8. Trouble remembering important parts of a stressful experience? [≥ 3]
   9. Loss of interest in activities that you used to enjoy? [≥ 4]
  10. Feeling distant or cut off from other people? [≥ 4]
  11. Feeling emotionally numb or being unable to have loving feelings for those close to you? [≥ 3]
C. **Hyperarousal** (*endorsement required of at least 2 items*)

13. Trouble falling or staying asleep? [≥ 3]
16. Being “super-alert” or watchful or on guard? [≥ 3]
17. Feeling jumpy or easily startled? [≥ 3]

**Sources:**


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