

Appendix 4. Neck Disability Index*

Name: _____

Date _____
mm dd yy

This questionnaire has been designed to give your therapist information as to how your neck pain has affected you in your every day life activities. Please answer each section; marking only the ONE box which best describes your status today.

Section 1—Pain Intensity

- I have no pain at the moment.
- The pain is very mild at the moment.
- The pain is moderate at the moment.
- The pain is fairly severe at the moment.
- The pain is very severe at the moment.
- The pain is the worst imaginable at the moment.

Section 2—Personal Care (Washing, dressing, etc.)

- I can look after myself normally without causing extra pain.
- I can look after myself normally, but it causes me extra pain.
- It is painful to look after myself and I am slow and careful.
- I need some help but manage most of my personal care.
- I need help every day in most aspects of self-care.
- I do not get dressed, wash with difficulty, and stay in bed.

Section 3—Lifting

- I can lift heavy weights without extra pain.
- I can lift heavy weights but it causes extra pain.
- Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights off the floor, but I can manage if they are conveniently positioned, for example on a table.
- Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights, but I can manage light to medium weights if they are conveniently positioned.
- I can lift only very light weights.
- I cannot lift or carry anything at all.

Section 4—Reading

- I can read as much as I want with no pain in my neck.
- I can read as much as I want to with slight pain in my neck.
- I can read as much as I want with moderate pain in my neck.
- I can't read as much as I want because of moderate pain in my neck.
- I can hardly read at all because of severe pain in my neck.
- I cannot read at all.

Section 5—Headache

- I have no headache at all.
- I have slight headaches that come infrequently.
- I have moderate headaches that come infrequently.
- I have moderate headaches that come frequently.
- I have severe headaches that come frequently.
- I have headaches almost all of the time.

Section 6—Concentration

- I can concentrate fully when I want to with no difficulty.
- I can concentrate fully when I want to with slight difficulty.
- I have a fair degree of difficulty in concentrating when I want to.
- I have a lot of difficulty in concentrating when I want to.
- I have a great deal of difficulty in concentrating when I want to.
- I cannot concentrate at all.

Section 7—Work

- I can do as much as I want to.
- I can only do my usual work, but no more.
- I can do most of my usual work, but no more.
- I cannot do my usual work.
- I can hardly do any work at all.
- I can't do any work at all.

Section 8—Driving

- I can drive my car without any neck pain.
- I can drive my car as long as I want with slight pain in my neck.
- I can drive my car as long as I want with moderate pain in my neck.
- I can't drive my car as long as I want because of moderate pain in my neck.
- I can hardly drive at all because of severe pain in my neck.
- I can't drive my car at all.

Section 9—Sleeping

- I have no trouble sleeping.
- My sleep is slightly disturbed (less than 1 hour sleep loss).
- My sleep is mildly disturbed (1-2 hours sleep loss).
- My sleep is moderately disturbed (2-3 hours sleep loss).
- My sleep is greatly disturbed (3-5 hours sleep loss).
- My sleep is completely disturbed (5-7 hours sleep loss).

Section 10—Recreation

- I am able to engage in all of my recreational activities with no neck pain at all.
- I am able to engage in all of my recreational activities with some pain in my neck.
- I am able to engage in most, but not all, of my usual recreational activities because of pain in my neck.
- I am able to engage in a few of my usual recreational activities because of pain in my neck.
- I can hardly do any recreational activities because of pain in my neck.
- I can't do any recreational activities at all.

*Adapted and reprinted from Vernon H, Mior S. The Neck Disability Index: a study of reliability and validity. *J Manipulative Physiol Ther.* 1991;14:409-415, with permission of Elsevier.