

SPIRITUALITY MEASURE DIFFERENCES

A brief guide to differences between the PROMIS[®] Spirituality instruments:

ADULT
PROMIS Bank v1.0 – Spirituality PROMIS Short Form v1.0 – Spirituality 6a PROMIS Short Form v1.0 – Spirituality – Personal Strength 6b PROMIS Short Form v1.0 – Spirituality – Religiosity 6c

ABOUT SPIRITUALITY

The Spirituality Item Bank assesses spiritual beliefs and experiences including receiving spiritual support, participating in religious activities and/or spiritual practices (e.g., meditation, prayer, yoga, visiting temples), and connection with a higher power. The Spirituality instruments are generic rather than disease-specific and are not religion-specific. Each measure assesses spirituality without a specified time period.

Spirituality instruments are available for adults (ages 18+).

For complete list of all PROMIS definitions, go to: <http://www.healthmeasures.net/explore-measurement-systems/promis/intro-to-promis/list-of-adult-measures>

INTRODUCTION TO ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

There are two administration options for assessing Spirituality: short forms and a computer adaptive test (CAT). When administering a short form, instruct participants to answer all of the items (i.e., questions or statements) presented. With a CAT, participant responses guide the system's choice of subsequent items from the full item bank (26 items). Although items differ across respondents taking CAT, scores are comparable across participants.

Some administrators may prefer to ask the same question of all respondents or of the same respondent over time, to enable a more direct comparability across people or time. In these cases, or when paper administration is preferred, a short form would be more desirable than CAT.

CAT: A minimum number of items (i.e., 4) must be answered in order to receive a score for Spirituality CAT. The response to the first item will guide the system's choice of the next item for the participant. The participant's response to the second item will dictate the selection of the following question, and so on. As additional items are administered, the potential for error is reduced and confidence in the respondent's score increases. CAT will continue until either the standard error drops below a specified level (on the T-score metric 3.0), or the participant has answered the maximum number of questions (8), whichever occurs first. For details on the exact stopping rules for the Spirituality CAT, see below.

CAT versus Short Form: Whether one uses a short form or CAT, the score metric is Item Response Theory (IRT), a family of statistical models that link individual questions to a presumed underlying trait or concept of spirituality represented by all items in the item bank. When choosing between CAT and a short form, it is useful to consider the demands of computer-based assessment, and the psychological, physical, and cognitive burden placed on respondents as a result of the number of questions asked.

VERSION DIFFERENCES

Some PROMIS domains have multiple versions of instruments (i.e., v1.0, v1.1, v2.0, v3.0). Generally, **it is recommended that you use the most recent version available which can be identified as the instrument with the highest version number.** In most cases, an instrument that has a decimal increase (v1.0 to v1.1) retains the same item-level parameters as well as instrument reliability and validity. In cases where a version number increases by a whole number (e.g., v1.0 to v2.0), the changes to the instrument are more substantial.

Adult

There is only one version (v1.0) of the Spirituality instruments.

CAT Stopping Rules: The PROMIS Bank v1.0 – Spirituality measure is administered by default as a CAT using the following standard stopping rules:

- Minimum number of items administered = 4
- Stop when one of these occurs:
 - 8 items are administered OR
 - Standard error is below 0.3 on the theta metric (3.0 on the T-score metric) OR
 - Standard error changes by less than 0.01 on the theta metric (0.1 on the T-score metric)

SHORT FORMS DIFFERENCES

Adult Short Forms

There are three Spirituality short forms for adults: the Spirituality 6a, the Spirituality – Personal Strength 6b, and the Spirituality – Religiosity 6c. Items for the three short forms were selected based on psychometric properties and content from the larger Spirituality item bank.

The three short forms are related to one another as follows:

- **Spirituality 6a** items reflect one's personal spiritual beliefs and one's participation in religious activities. It should be used when the administrator is interested in assessing the importance of both spiritual beliefs and religious practices.
- **Spirituality – Personal Strength 6b** items assess one's personal spiritual beliefs and do not assess participation in religious activities. It should be used when the administrator is interested in assessing the importance of spiritual beliefs but not religious activities or interactions with religious leaders.
- **Spirituality – Religiosity 6c** items assess participation in religious activities and connection with a religious leader. It should be used when the administrator wishes to assess an individual's religious practices and connection with clergy.

SCORES

For most PROMIS instruments, a score of 50 is the average for the United States general population with a standard deviation of 10 because calibration testing was performed on a large sample of the general population. However, the Spirituality measures were developed in a clinical sample of individuals who reported receiving care from a healthcare provider. A mean of 50 reflects the average for that sample. You can read more about the calibration and centering samples on HealthMeasures.net (<http://www.healthmeasures.net/score-and-interpret/interpret-scores/promis>). The T-score is provided with an error term (Standard Error or SE). The Standard Error is a statistical measure of variance and represents the "margin of error" for the T-score.

Important: A higher PROMIS T-score represents more of the concept being measured. For positively-worded concepts like Spirituality, a T-score of 60 is one SD more than average. By comparison, a Spirituality T-score of 40 is one SD less than average.

STATISTICAL CHARACTERISTICS

There are four key features of the score for Spirituality:

- **Reliability:** The degree to which a measure is free of error. It can be estimated by the internal consistency of the responses to the measure, or by correlating total scores on the measure from two time points when there has been no true change in what is being measured (for z-scores, reliability = $1 - SE^2$).
- **Precision:** The consistency of the estimated score (reciprocal of error variance).
- **Information:** The precision of an item or multiple items at different levels of the underlying continuum (for z-scores, information = $1/SE^2$).
- **Standard Error (SE):** The possible range of the actual final score based upon the scaled T-score. For example, with a T-score of 52 and a SE of 2, the 95% confidence interval around the actual final score ranges from 48.1 to 55.9 ($T\text{-score} \pm (1.96 * SE) = 52 \pm 3.9 = 48.1 \text{ to } 55.9$).

PREVIEW OF SAMPLE ITEM

Figure 1 is an excerpt from the paper version of the v1.0 adult item bank. This is the paper version format used for all Spirituality instruments. It is important to note that the Spirituality CAT is not available for paper administration.

		Not at all	A little bit	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very much
SPT2262	Spiritual beliefs give meaning to my life.....	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5
SPT2057	Spiritual beliefs give me hope.....	☐ 1	☐ 2	☐ 3	☐ 4	☐ 5

Figure 1

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: I am interested in learning more. Where can I do that?

Review the HealthMeasures website at www.healthmeasures.net.

Q: Where can I find more information about the Spirituality instruments, such as how to use them?

See <https://www.HealingFactors.pitt.edu> for more information.

Q: Are PROMIS instruments available in other languages?

Yes! Look at the HealthMeasures website (<http://www.healthmeasures.net/explore-measurement-systems/promis/intro-to-promis/available-translations>) for current information on PROMIS translations.



Q: Can I make my own short form?

Yes, custom short forms can be made by selecting any items from the item bank. This can be scored using the Scoring Service (https://www.assessmentcenter.net/ac_scoringervice).