

## Modified Global Assessment of Functioning (mGAF) Scale

### Rate LOWEST possible score for each patient

#### Score Intervals

0	<b>In Persistent Danger of Severely Hurting Self or Others</b>
	Criteria: * Serious suicidal act with clear expectation of death (e.g., stabbing, shooting, hanging, or serious overdose, with no one present) * Frequent severe violence or self-mutilation * Extreme manic excitement, or extreme agitation and impulsivity (e.g., wild screaming and ripping the stuffing out of a bed mattress) * Persistent inability to maintain minimal personal hygiene * Urgent/emergency admission to present psychiatric hospital * In acute, severe danger due to medical problems (e.g., severe anorexia or bulimia with heart/kidney problems, or spontaneous vomiting WHENEVER food is ingested, or severe depression with out-of-control diabetes)
	Scoring: A patient having 1-2 of the 6 areas of disturbance in this category = rating of 8-10 A patient having 3-4 of the 6 areas of disturbance in this category = rating of 4-7 A patient having 5-6 of the 6 areas of disturbance in the category = rating of 1-3
10	
11	<b>In Some Danger of Hurting Self or Others</b>
	Criteria: * Suicide attempts without clear expectation of death (e.g., mild overdose or scratching wrists with people around) * Some severe violence or self-mutilating behaviors * Severe manic excitement, or severe agitation and impulsivity * Occasionally fails to maintain minimal personal hygiene (e.g., diarrhea due to laxative, or smearing feces) * Urgent/emergency admission to the present psychiatric hospital * In physical danger due to medical problems (e.g., severe anorexia or bulimia and some spontaneous vomiting or extensive laxative/diuretic/diet pill use, but without serious heart or kidney problems or severe dehydration and disorientation)
	Scoring: A patient with 1-2 of the 6 areas of disturbance in this category = rating 18-20 A patient with 3-4 of the 6 areas of disturbance in this category = rating 14-17 A patient with 5-6 of the 6 areas of disturbance in this category = rating 11-13
20	
21	<b>Inability to Function in Almost All Areas</b>
	<i>Unique</i> * Suicidal preoccupation or frank suicidal ideation with preparation
	<i>Items:</i> <b>OR</b> behavior considerably influenced by delusions or hallucinations <b>OR</b> serious impairment in communication (sometimes incoherent, acts grossly inappropriately, or profound stuporous depression)
	<i>Combined:</i> * Serious Impairment with work, school, or housework (unable to keep job or stay in school, or failing school, or unable to care for family and house) * Frequent problems with the law (frequent shoplifting, arrests) or occasional combative behavior * Serious impairment in relationships with family (frequent fights with family and/or neglects family or has no home) * Serious impairment in judgment (including inability to make decisions, confusion, disorientation) * Serious impairment in thinking (including constant preoccupation with thoughts, distorted body image, paranoia) * Serious impairment in mood (including constant depressed mood plus helplessness and hopelessness, or agitation or manic mood) * Serious impairment due to anxiety (panic attacks, overwhelming anxiety) * Other symptoms: some hallucinations, delusions or severe obsessive rituals * Passive suicidal ideation
	Scoring: A patient with 1 of the first 3 (unique) criteria = rating 21 A patient with 7 of the combined criteria = rating 28=30 A patient with 8-9 of the combined criteria = rating 24-27 A patient with 10 of the combined criteria = rating 20-23

**Major Impairment in Several Areas of Functioning**

- Criteria:
- \* Serious impairment with work, school or housework (e.g., unable to keep job or stay in school, or failing school, or unable to care for family and house)
  - \* Frequent problems with the law (e.g., frequent shoplifting, arrests) or occasional combative behavior
  - \* Serious impairment in relationships with friends (e.g. very few or no, friends, or avoids what friends he/she has)
  - \* Serious impairment in relationships with family (e.g., frequent fights with family and/or neglects family or has no home)
  - \* Serious impairment in judgement (including inability to make decisions, confusion, disorientation)
  - \* Serious impairment in thinking (including constant preoccupation with thoughts, distorted body image, paranoia)
  - \* Serious impairment in mood (including constant depressed mood plus helplessness and hopelessness, or agitation or manic mood)
  - \* Serious impairment due to anxiety (e.g., panic attacks, overwhelming anxiety)
  - \* Other symptoms: some hallucinations, delusions or severe obsessive rituals
  - \* Passive suicidal ideation
- Scoring:
- A patient with 4 areas of disturbance = rating 38-40
  - A patient with 5 areas of disturbance = rating 34-37
  - A patient with 6 areas of disturbance = rating 31-33

**Some Serious Symptoms or Impairment in Functioning**

- Criteria:
- \* Serious impairment with work, school or housework (e.g. unable to keep job or stay in school, or failing school, or unable to care for family and house)
  - \* Frequent problems with the law (e.g. frequent shoplifting, arrests) or occasional combative behavior
  - \* Serious impairment in relationships with friends (e.g. very few, or no, friends, or avoids what friends he/she has)
  - \* Serious impairment in relationships with family (e.g., frequent fights with family and/or neglects family or has no home)
  - \* Serious impairment in judgement (including inability to make decisions, confusion, disorientation)
  - \* Serious impairment in thinking (including constant preoccupation with thoughts, distorted body image, paranoia)
  - \* Serious impairment in mood (including constant depressed mood plus helplessness and hopelessness, or agitation or manic mood)
  - \* Serious impairment due to anxiety (e.g., panic attacks, overwhelming anxiety)
  - \* Other symptoms: some hallucinations, delusions or severe obsessional rituals
  - \* Passive suicidal ideation
- Scoring:
- A patient with 1 areas of disturbance = rating 48-50
  - A patient with 2 areas of disturbance = rating 44-47
  - A patient with 3 area of disturbance = rating 41-43

**Moderate Symptoms**

- Criteria:
- \* Moderate symptoms (e.g. frequent, moderate depressed mood and insomnia and/or moderate ruminating and obsessing; or occasional anxiety attacks; or flat affect and circumstantial speech; or eating problems and below minimum safe weight without depression)
  - \* Moderate difficulty in social, work, or school functioning (e.g. few friends or conflicts with co-workers)
- Scoring:
- A patient with **EITHER** moderate symptoms **OR** moderate difficulty in social, work, or school functioning = rating 58-60
  - A patient with moderate difficulty in more than 1 area of social, work, or school functioning = rating 54-57
  - A patient with **BOTH** moderate symptoms **AND** moderate difficulty in social, work or school functioning = rating 51-60

61

### **Some Persistent Mild Symptoms**

- Criteria:
- \* Mild symptoms are present that are NOT just expectable reactions to psychosocial stressors (e.g. mild or lessened depression and/or mild insomnia)
  - \* Some persistent difficulty in social, occupational, or school functioning (e.g. occasional truancy, theft within the family, or repeated falling behind in school or work)
  - \* But has some meaningful interpersonal relationships
- Scoring:
- A patient with **EITHER** mild persistent symptoms ; **OR** some difficulty in social, work, and school functioning = rating 68-70
- A patient with mild persistent difficulty in more than 1 area of social, work, or school functioning = rating 64-67
- A patient with **BOTH** mild persistent symptoms ; **AND** mild difficulty in social, work, or school functioning = rating 61-63

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### **Some Transient Mild Symptoms**

- Criteria:
- \* Mild symptoms are present, but they are transient and expected reactions to psychosocial stressors (e.g. difficulty concentrating after family argument)
  - \* Slight impairment in social, work, or school functioning (e.g. temporarily falling behind in school or work)
- Scoring:
- A patient with **EITHER** mild symptoms ; **OR** slight impairment in social, work and school functioning = rating 78-80
- A patient with mild impairment in more than 1 area of social, work, or school functioning = rating 74-77
- A patient with **BOTH** mild symptoms ; **AND** mild impairment in social, work, or school functioning = rating 71-73

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### **Absent or Minimal Symptoms**

- Criteria:
- \* Minimal or absent symptoms (e.g. mild anxiety before examination)
  - \* Good functioning in all areas and satisfied with life
  - \* Interested and involved in a wide range of activities
  - \* Socially effective
  - \* No more than everyday problems or concerns (e.g. an occasional argument with family members)
- Scoring:
- A patient with no symptoms and everyday problems = rating 88-90
- A patient with minimal symptoms or everyday problems = rating 84-87
- A patient with minimal symptoms and everyday problems = rating 81-83

90