Modified Global Assessment of Functioning (mGAF) Scale
Rate LOWEST possible score for each patient

Score Intervals

0  
In Persistent Danger of Severely Hurting Self or Others
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  
In Some Danger of Hurting Self or Others
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  
Inability to Function in Almost All Areas
Unique
* Suicidal preoccupation or frank suicidal ideation with preparation

Items:  
OR behavior considerably influenced by delusions or hallucinations
OR serious impairment in communication (sometimes incoherent, acts grossly inappropriately, or profound stuporous depression)

Combined:  
* 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

30
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 obsessional 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
**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

**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

**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