CPSS Scoring and Interpretation

For scoring severity of PTSD symptoms, each of the first 17 items is rated on a scale from 0 to 3, with total score ranging from 0 to 51 by adding them up. Items 1-5 are re-experiencing symptoms, items 6-12 are avoidance symptoms, and items 13-17 are hyperarousal symptoms.

The following is a guide to PTSD severity based on the total scores:

0 – 10      Below threshold

11 – 15     Subclinical – Mild

16 – 20     Mild

21 – 25     Moderate

26 – 30     Moderately Severe

31 – 40     Severe

41 – 51     Extremely Severe

The additional seven items that inquire about daily functioning (e.g., relationships with friends, schoolwork) are rated as either absent (0) or present (1) and yield a total impairment severity score ranging from 0 to 7.