

Problem Severity Score

Instructions:

- The problem severity is an overall score of the patient/client and family.
- Score at episode start, at phase change and episode end

0 = Absent 1 = Mild 2 = Moderate 3 = Severe	The degree of overall pain of the patient.	Record the degree of overall other symptoms of the patient. The following list may be used as a guide:		Record the score for overall degree of psychological / spiritual problems of the patient. The following list may be used as a guide:		Record score for the overall degree of family / carer problems. The following list may be used as a guide:	
		Nausea Vomiting Constipation Diahorrea- Dyspnoea Incontinence Irritation	Wound Confusion Delirium Oedema Weakness Fatigue Anorexia	Agitation Anxiety Fear Anger Sadness	Unrealistic Goals Request To Die Confusion Depression	Denial Caregiver Fatigue Unrealistic Goals Anger Cultural Accommodation Legal	Sensory Impairment Non English Speaking Difficult Communication Family Carer Anxiety
Date Assessed	PC pain	PC other symptom		PC Psych/ spiritual		PC Family/ Carer Score	

Triggers:

- A score of 2 or 3 for Psych/spiritual may trigger Pastoral or Social Work referral or intervention
- A score of 2 or 3 for family/carer may trigger Pastoral or Social Work referral or intervention

References

1. Smith, M. & Firms, P. (1994) Palliative care case mix Classification – Testing a Model in a Variety of Palliative Care Settings – Preliminary Results. Conference proceedings from the 6th national Case mix Conference. Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health.
2. Eagar, K., Cromwell, D. Kennedy, C. & Lee, L. (1997) Classifying Sub-Acute and Non-Acute patients results of the NSW Case mix Area Network Study. Australian Health Review, Vol 20, No 2, 26-42
3. Smith, M. (1996) Palliative Care case mix – Stage 2 Development: a national Classification for any site of Care. The 8th national case mix Conference. Commonwealth Department of Human Services and health.
4. Eagar, K., Gordon, R., Green, J., & Smith, M (2004) An Australian case mix classification for palliative care: lessons and policy implications of a national study. Palliative Medicine, 18:227-233