

THE BOWEL FUNCTION INDEX¹

This page is intended for healthcare professionals only. Do not show to patients.

Thank you for downloading the Bowel Function Index from the Target OIC website.

This is a clinically validated tool developed specifically for OIC to meet the need for better patient assessment scales. It is a very simple, short and subjective questionnaire that captures the patient's personal experience of their constipation. It is intended to be administered by healthcare professionals.¹

The questions you should ask your patient are shown on page 2 of this document. Before you begin you may wish to reassure your patient that there are no right or wrong answers and that they should answer each question as accurately as possible, according to their experience.

Scoring

Once the three questions have been completed and discussed add the three scores together and divide by three to get an average score. If this score is over 28.8 it is considered the patient is suffering from constipation.²

Adapted from: 1. Ducrotté P, Caussé C. The Bowel Function Index: a new validated scale for assessing opioid-induced constipation. *Current Medical Research and Opinion*. 2012;28(3):457-466. 2. Ueberall M, Müller-Lissner S, Buschmann-Kramm C, et al. The Bowel Function Index for Evaluating Constipation in Pain Patients: Definition of a Reference Range for a Non-Constipated Population of Pain Patients. *Journal of International Medical Research*. 2011;39(1):41-50.



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Note for healthcare professionals: Ask your patient to rate each question as accurately as possible, according to their experience.

Ease of defaecation in the last 7 days:

During the last 7 days, how would you rate your ease of defaecation on a scale of 0 (no difficulty) to 100 (severe difficulty)?

0
Easy/no
difficulty



100
Severe
difficulty

Feeling of incomplete bowel evacuation during the last 7 days:

During the last 7 days, how would you rate your feeling of incomplete bowel evacuation on a scale of 0 to 100?

0
No feeling of
incomplete emptying



100
Very strong feeling of
incomplete emptying

Personal judgement of patient regarding constipation during the last 7 days:

During the last 7 days, how would you rate your constipation on a scale of 0 to 100?

0
Not a problem



100
Severe problem

