

## Back Problems Calculated Variables

The questions consist of 3 parts

Main: Do you have any difficulty ... activity

Difficulty: If yes, how much difficulty do you have doing this? None, some, much, unable.

Back pain or problems: If yes or doesn't do: Is this because of back pain or back problems.

Variable naming convention: V#mainvar, V#diffvar, V#backvar, V#mainvarC

V# for visit

Mainvar for activity: bend, lift, rch, sock, etc.

Diffvar for difficulty variable

Backvar for back pain or problems variable.

Calculated variable is usually mainvarC and is coded:

Any Difficulty?	How much difficulty?	Is it due to back pain?	New var: difficulty due to back pain
V#mainvar	V#diffvar	V#backvar	V#mainvarC
Yes	Some	Yes	Some
Yes	Much	Yes	Much
Yes	Unable	Yes	Unable
No	any value	any value	None
any value	any value	No	None
Don't do it	any value	Yes	Unable

Likert scale is the sum of the calculated variable for degree of difficulty due to back pain or problems. There is a 6-variable scale, 7-variable scale, and 8-variable scale.

The 6-variable scale V#likto6 is the sum of:

V#bendC + V#liftC + V#rchC + V#sockonC + V#autoC + V#feetC

Where all 6 variables must be non-missing.

The 7-variable scale V#likto7 is the sum of:

V#bendC + V#liftC + V#rchC + V#sockonC + V#autoC + V#feetC + V#sitbkC

Where all 7 variables must be non-missing.

The 8-variable scale V#likto8 is the sum of:

V#bendC + V#liftC + V#rchC + V#sockonC + V#autoC + V#feetC + V#chairC + V#sitbkC

Where all 8 variables must be non-missing.

Bend: bending or stooping down to pick up lightweight things (like clothing) from the floor?

Lift: lifting a 10 lb object (such as a bag of potatoes) up from the floor?

Rch: reaching an object just above your head, such as a jar on a shelf?

Sockon: putting socks or stockings on either foot?

Auto: getting in and out of an automobile or in and out of the front seat of an automobile?

Feet: standing or being on your feet for about 2 hours?

Chair: getting up out of a chair?

SitBk: sitting in a chair for about 30 minutes without getting up?

V#mainvarC are also calculated for other back problem variables that are not used for likert scale variables.



# Back Pain & Function

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1 In the past 12 months, have you had any back pain?

- Yes     No     Don't know

V8BACK



GO TO QUESTION #2

a. How often were you bothered by back pain in the last 12 months?

- All the time, constantly     Some of the time     Never  
 Most of the time     Rarely

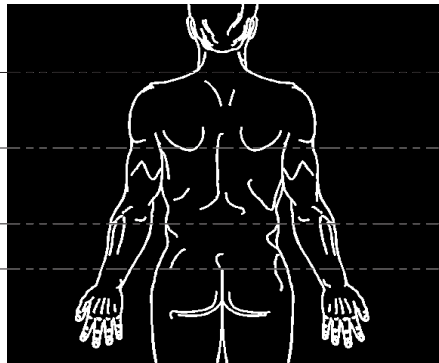
V8OFT

b. When you have had back pain, how bad was it on average?

- Mild     Moderate     Severe

V8BAD

c. In what part of your back is the pain usually located? (Mark all areas that apply with an X on the diagram below)



CLINIC USE ONLY

- NK    V8LOCNK  
 UB  
 MB  
 LB  
 BK    V8LOCBK

V8PART

d. Do you currently have back pain?

- Yes     No     Don't know

V8PNCUR

e. In the past 12 months, how many different times have you been bothered by back pain?

V8PNDIF

- 1 or 2 times     3 to 5 times     6 or more times     All the time, constantly

2 In the past 12 months, have you limited your activities because of pain in your back?

- Yes     No     Don't know

V8LIM



GO TO QUESTION #3

a. How many days did you stay in bed because of your back?

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++ days V8BBED

++Changed from continuous to categorical variable to ensure confidentiality

b. How many days did you limit your activities because of your back? (include days in bed)

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++ days V8BLIM

++Changed from continuous to categorical variable to ensure confidentiality

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# Back Pain & Function

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3 Do you have any difficulty bending or stooping down to pick up lightweight things (like clothing) from the floor?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8BEND

V8BENDC

GO TO QUESTION #4

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

4 Do you have any difficulty lifting a ten-pound object (such as a bag of potatoes) up from the floor?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8LIFT

V8LIFTC

GO TO QUESTION #5

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

5 Do you have any difficulty reaching an object just above your head, such as a jar on a shelf?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8RCH

V8RCHC

GO TO QUESTION #6

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know





# Back Pain & Function

Office Use Only  
SOF ID#

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Staff ID#

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6 Do you have any difficulty putting socks or stockings on either foot?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8SCKON

V8SCKONC

GO TO QUESTION #7

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

7 Do you have any difficulty getting in and out of the front seat of an automobile?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8AUTO

V8AUTOC

GO TO QUESTION #8

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

8 Do you have any difficulty standing or being on your feet for about 2 hours?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8FEET

V8FEETC

GO TO QUESTION #9

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know





# Back Pain & Function

Office Use Only  
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Acrostic

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Staff ID#

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9 Do you have any difficulty sitting in a chair for about 30 minutes without getting up?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8SITBK

V8SITBKC

GO TO QUESTION #10

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

10 Do you have any difficulty getting up out of a chair?

Yes

No

I don't do it

V8CHAIR

V8CHAIRC

GO TO QUESTION #11

a. How much difficulty do you have doing this?

- Some difficulty
- Much difficulty
- Unable to do it

b. Is this because of back pain or back problems?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

11 Have you driven a car in the past 12 months?

Yes

No

V8LIKTO6

V8LIKTO7

V8LIKTO8

On average, about how many miles do you drive per week?

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miles per week

