

Self-Assessment of Social Cognition Impairments (ACSo)

The ACSo is a brief self-report questionnaire on social cognition designed to identify subjective complaints in daily life. It explores four domains that are clinically useful in psychology and psychiatry: attributional biases, social perception and knowledge, emotional processes, and theory of mind. Developed in French from a transdiagnostic perspective, it is mainly used with adults who have a psychiatric disorder or a neurodevelopmental disorder with a sociocognitive impact, notably schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or autism spectrum disorder. Its main value is to add a measure of the patient's subjective experience to the objective assessment, which is useful for preparing psychosocial rehabilitation, targeting therapeutic goals, and monitoring changes in perceived difficulties.

Number of questions	12 questions
Estimated duration	5 minutes
Language	English
Original name	Self-Assessment of Social Cognition Impairments
Target audience	Adults
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Category	Autism spectrum

Preview of the 12 questions

I have trouble recognizing other people's emotions (anger, fear, sadness...).

0 - Never | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 - Very often

I have trouble understanding things that are not meant literally (e.g., in a joke).

0 - Never | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 - Very often

I have trouble judging whether something is polite or rude.

0 - Never | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 - Very often

I tend to think that people do things on purpose to harm me or are hostile toward me.

0 - Never | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 - Very often

I lack tact with others (for example, by giving my opinion, I may unintentionally hurt those around me).

0 - Never | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 - Very often

Scoring & interpretation

Each item is scored from 0 to 4, from never to very often. The total score is the sum of the 12 items, with a range of 0 to 48. A higher score indicates more subjective social cognition complaints. Subscores can be calculated according to the validated factor solution: attributional biases for items 4, 7, and 12; social perception and knowledge for items 3, 8, and 9; emotional processes for items 1 and 10; theory of mind for items 2, 6, and 11. Item 5 is kept in the total score but is not included in the subscores. In the original study, a cutoff of 13 showed good discrimination between patients and controls, but it should not be interpreted as a diagnostic cutoff.

Usage

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