

Children's Post-Traumatic Stress Reaction Index (CPTS-RI)

The CPTS-RI is a self-report questionnaire designed to screen for post-traumatic stress symptoms and estimate their severity in children and adolescents after a potentially traumatic event. Widely used in child psychotraumatology, it mainly explores re-experiencing, avoidance, emotional numbing, and physiological hyperarousal. This tool helps the psychologist objectify the intensity of the clinical impact, guide the diagnostic assessment, and monitor symptom progression over the course of treatment. It does not replace a structured clinical interview, but it is a particularly relevant screening and monitoring aid in clinical, medical-psychological, and research settings.

Number of questions	20 questions
Estimated duration	10 minutes
Language	English
Original name	Children's Post-Traumatic Stress Reaction Index
Target audience	Children, adolescents
Authors	Robert S. Pynoos, Christopher Frederick, Kathleen Nader (1987)
Category	PTSD, Childhood

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Send your patient a link: they answer from their phone or computer, and you receive the scored results by email.

View the questionnaire on mentaal.org ›

Scoring & interpretation

Each item is scored on a scale from 0 to 4 according to the frequency or intensity of the symptom. The total score is obtained by adding up the 20 items, for a total between 0 and 80. The usual interpretation relies on severity levels: 0 to 11 = absent or doubtful, 12 to 24 = mild, 25 to 39 = moderate, 40 to 59 = severe, 60 and above = very severe. Results must be interpreted in light of the traumatic exposure, the child's age, and the overall clinical assessment.

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 Laura V. - Online Psychologist