

Children's Revised Impact of Event Scale (CRIES-13)

The CRIES is a questionnaire intended to assess the impact of traumatic events in children. It is designed to measure symptoms of avoidance, intrusion and hyperarousal following a traumatic event.

Number of questions	13 questions
Estimated duration	3 minutes
Language	English
Original name	Child Revised Impact of Events Scale
Target audience	Children aged 8 to 18
Authors	Patrick Smith, William Yule, S. N. Perrin (1998)
Category	PTSD, Childhood

Preview of the 13 questions

Over the past 7 days,

Did you think back on the event even when you didn't want to?

Not at all | Rarely | Sometimes | Very often

Over the past 7 days,

Did you try to push the event out of your memory?

Not at all | Rarely | Sometimes | Very often

Over the past 7 days,

Did you have trouble paying attention or concentrating?

Not at all | Rarely | Sometimes | Very often

Over the past 7 days,

Did you suddenly feel waves of intense feelings about it?

Not at all | Rarely | Sometimes | Very often

Over the past 7 days,

Did you feel more frightened or more nervous than before the event?

Not at all | Rarely | Sometimes | Very often

Administer your questionnaires online

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

The CRIES-13 comprises 13 items divided into three subscales: intrusion (items 1, 3, 6, 9), avoidance (items 5, 7, 8, 10) and arousal (items 2, 4, 11, 12, 13). Each item is rated on a 4-point Likert scale: 0 = Not at all, 1 = Rarely, 3 = Sometimes, 5 = Often. The intermediate values (2 and 4) are not used.

The total score is obtained by adding up the scores of all 13 items. It ranges from 0 to 65. A total score of 30 or higher is considered indicative of a high risk of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). There is no clinical cutoff for the subscales.

CRIES-13 results should be interpreted as part of a comprehensive clinical assessment that takes into account the young person's context, history, protective factors and available sources of support. The tool cannot, on its own, establish a diagnosis of PTSD. Any diagnostic confirmation must be made by a professional duly trained in this type of assessment.

The CRIES-13 does not assess certain PTSD criteria introduced in DSM-5, notably negative alterations in cognitions and mood. It is therefore recommended to complement the assessment with questions exploring these dimensions.

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