Children's Depression Inventory (CDI)

by James Lani

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The **Children's Depression Inventory (CDI)** is a brief self-report test that aids in assessing cognitive, affective, and behavioral signs of depression. Schools, child guidance clinics, pediatric practices, and child psychiatric settings are common users of this instrument.

The Children’s Depression Inventory is used by clinicians and counselors to help:

- Assess self-reported key symptoms of depression, such as a child’s feelings of worthlessness and loss of interest in activities;
- Support diagnosis and treatment planning;
- Conduct clinical research.

Participants are required to answer 27-items using the paper-and-pencil format and should be between the ages of 7 and 17. Approximately 5-10 minutes is necessary for completion.

**Author**

Maria Kovacs, 1992

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**Dissertations Using the Children's Depression Inventory**

Below is a list of published dissertations that use the CDI. The full versions of these dissertations can be found on ProQuest.

Rick, S. S. (1999). Coping behaviors of sexually abused boys as related to levels of depression and hopelessness. Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing.