# Short Form (36) Health Survey (SF-36)

The Short Form (36) Health Survey (SF-36) evaluates the functional health and well-being of patients.

The test consists of 36 questions and requires 10 minutes to administer. The Sf-36 includes a multiitem scale with 8 subscales. A physical summary and a mental summary are included in the test scoring. SF-12 is the reduced version of the survey and requires only 2 minutes is necessary for completion.

## Author

Stewart, 1988

## **Reliability and Validity**

According to numerous studies (i.e., Vikrey et al., 1995), the evidence for the validity of the SF-36 is considerable. A Cronbach alpha rating ranging from .67 to .94 was calculated for the eight subscales. Excluding the social functioning subscale, all of the subscales received a reliability coefficient above 0.75. The SF-36 was best correlated with the Expanded Disability Status Scale (EDSS) and the Ambulation Index as a physical functioning scale.

#### Obtaining the SF-36

Rand Health

#### SF-36.org

#### Administration, Analysis and Reporting

Statistics Solutions consists of a team of professional methodologists and statisticians that can assist the student or professional researcher in administering the survey instrument, collecting the data, conducting the analyses and explaining the results.

For additional information on these services, click here.

#### References

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Jenkinson, C., Wright, L., & Coulter, A. (1994). Criterion validity and reliability of the SF-36 in a

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### **Dissertation and Journal Abstracts**

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Lyons, R. A., Wareham, K., Lucas, M., Price, D., Williams, J., & Hutchings, H. A. (1999). SF-36 scores vary by method of administration implications for study design. Journal of public health medicine, 21, 41-45.

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