

Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS)

Name of instrument	Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale
Summary overview	There are two versions, an 18-item and a 24-item, and it is a clinician-based rating scale that emphasizes significant psychiatric symptoms. Ratings are made based on a 7-point Likert scale, from “Not Present” to “Extremely Severe.” The scale was originally developed to measure changes in inpatients during clinical pharmacology trials, but is now used more broadly.
Publisher/source	Ventura, M.A., et al (1993)
Source contact information	N/A, the instrument and validity and reliability information are available in the literature (see below: “How to obtain the instrument”).
Access information	Available in public domain
Pricing information	No charge
How to obtain instrument	Ventura, M.A., et al (1993). Training and quality assurance with the brief psychiatric rating scale: “The drift buster.” International Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research, 3, 221-244. Or contact MBHP Outcomes Project Manager: (617) 350-1951 or e-mail MBHPOutcomes@valueoptions.com
Self vs. other administered	Other administered
Method of administration	Administered in context of clinical interview; includes observation of subject’s behavior.
Time for administration	20 – 30 minutes
Time for scoring	5 minutes
Staff training level needed for administration	Experienced clinician
Staff training level needed for scoring and reporting	Experienced clinician
How are reports generated?	N/A
Languages available	English only, but as instrument is administered by clinician in interview, can be utilized by bilingual clinicians; has been shown to be valid cross-culturally.
Scales (if appropriate)	Somatic Concerns, Anxiety, Emotional Withdrawal, Conceptual Disorganization, Guilt Feelings, Tension, Mannerisms and Posturing, Grandiosity, Depressive Mood, Hostility, Suspiciousness, Hallucinatory Behavior, Motor Retardation, Uncooperativeness, Unusual Thought Content, Blunted Affect, Excitement, Disorientation, Suicidality, Elated Mood, Bizarre Behavior, Distractibility, Motor Hyperactivity
Appropriate clinical population(s)	Individuals with significant psychiatric symptoms, particularly inpatient settings
Appropriate level(s) of care	Inpatient settings and outpatient settings treating serious symptoms of mental illness
Stand-alone instrument vs. system	Stand-alone instrument
Age range	Adults