

SF-8, 12, 36

Name of instrument	The Medical Outcomes Study Short-Form 36-Item Health Survey (SF-36) Other related versions are: SF-36v.2, SF-12, SF 12v.2, SF-8
Summary overview	“The SF-36 is a multi-purpose, short-form health survey with only 36 questions. It yields an 8-scale profile of functional health and well-being scores as well as psychometrically-based physical and mental health summary measures and a preference-based health utility index. It is a generic measure, as opposed to one that targets a specific age, disease, or treatment group. Accordingly, the SF-36 has proven useful in surveys of general and specific populations, comparing the relative burden of diseases, and in differentiating the health benefits produced by a wide range of different treatments ... The SF-36 is now available in both standard (4-week) and acute (1-week) recall versions. The more recently developed acute form was designed for applications in which health status would be measured weekly or biweekly.” (web site: www.sf-36.org) The SF-12 and SF-8 represent shorter versions of the original SF-36. The SF-36v2 and SF-12v2 are revised versions of the instruments.
Publisher/source	The Medical Outcomes Trust (MOT) and QualityMetric Health Outcomes Solutions
Source contact information	Phone: (401) 334-8800 Fax: (401) 334-8801 Web site: www.SF-36.org
Access information	For purchase. Not in public domain. See source contact information above.
Pricing information	Pricing differs based on organization’s specific needs. See source contact information above.
Self vs. other administered	Self or other
Method of administration	“The SF-36 is suitable for self-administration, computerized administration, or administration by a trained interviewer in person or by telephone, to persons age 14 and older ... Computer administered and telephone voice recognition interactive systems of administration are currently being evaluated ... Online administrations and scoring of SF-36 forms are demonstrated on the Internet .” (web site: www.SF-36.org)
Time for administration	5 – 10 minutes
Time for scoring	5 – 10 minutes
Staff training level needed for administration and scoring	Not indicated
How are reports generated?	Manually or computer-generated
Languages available	“The SF-36 [®] has already been translated in numerous languages. The translation work has been under the auspices of the International Quality of Life Project Assessment (IQOLA), housed at the Health Assessment Lab in Boston.” If you are interested in obtaining copies of translations or finding more information, please contact info@iqola.org .
Scales (if appropriate)	Two major scales: Physical Health (includes physical functioning – PF; role-physical-RP; bodily pain-BP; general health- GH); and Mental Health (includes vitality-VT; social functioning-SF; role emotional-RE; mental health-MH)
Appropriate clinical population(s)	All populations. Designed for use in “clinical practice and research, health policy evaluations, and general population surveys.” (web site: www.SF-36.org)
Appropriate level(s) of care	No restrictions noted
Stand-alone instrument vs. system	Stand-alone instrument
Age range	14 years of age and older