

The Psychosocial Impact of Assistive Devices Scale

What information will I gain from the Psychosocial Impact of Assistive Devices Scale?

The Psychosocial Impact of Assistive Devices Scale (PIADS) aims to ‘assess the effects of an assistive device on functional independence, well-being, and quality of life’.¹ The PIADS can help gain knowledge on the level of support someone might need, or to identify future supports to assist to address issues associated with a disability, such as the provision of human support or adaptive equipment. The PIADS is a 26-item questionnaire that a person can use - with the support from a clinician, family, or other key supporter, if required - to assess how the use of assistive technology affects them. This is achieved by the person providing responses to items (or phrases) related to three subscales: competence, adaptability, and self-esteem.²

Each phrase is rated on a seven-point scale ranging from -3 to 3. Selection of negative values indicates the person finds the use of the assistive technology to ‘decrease’ with respect to the corresponding phrase within the tool. Whereas selection of positive values indicate that the person finds the use of the assistive technology to ‘increase’ with respect to the corresponding phrase. For example, selection of a -2 score for the phrase ‘competence’ suggests that the person feels that the use of the device *decreases* their level of competence. In another example, selection of a 2 score for the phrase ‘independence’ indicates that the person feels that the use of the device *increases* their level of independence.³

¹ <https://piads.at/>

² https://piads.at/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/PIADS_MANUAL__03b_2.pdf

³ https://piads.at/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/10.-PIADS-Scale-Version-2-with_contact-info_15Mar2018.pdf

There is also a 15-item plain language version of the PIADS.⁴

How long does it take to administer the PIADS?

The assessment will take around 5-10 minutes to complete and can be completed either in-person or over the telephone.

How do I report or score the PIADS?

The PIADS manual provides guidance on scoring and reporting of results. [If required, you can download a glossary here.](#) The glossary can help with understanding the phrases within the tool. [There is also an electronic scoring sheet available which you can download here.](#)

How do I get more information on, or access to, the PIADS?

[You can get more information on, or access to, the PIADS here.](#)

[You can download the 15-item plain language version of the PIADS here.](#)



⁴ <https://piads.at/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Childrens-PIADS.pdf>



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