

# Roland Morris Questionnaire



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

When your back hurts, you may find it difficult to do some things you normally do.

This list contains some sentences that people have used to describe themselves when they have back pain. When you read them, you may find that some stand out because they describe you **today**. When you read a sentence that describes you today, fill the box to the left of the sentence. If the sentence does not describe you, then leave the box blank and go on to the next one.

Remember, only mark the sentence if you are sure that it describes you **today**.

- 1. I stay at home most of the time because of my back.
- 2. I walk more slowly than usual because of my back.
- 3. Because of my back, I'm not doing any of the jobs I usually do around the house.
- 4. Because of my back, I use a handrail to get upstairs.
- 5. Because of my back, I lie down to rest more often.
- 6. Because of my back, I have to hold onto something to get out of an easy chair.
- 7. Because of my back, I try to get other people to do things for me.
- 8. I get dressed more slowly than usual because of my back.
- 9. I only stand up for short periods because of my back.
- 10. Because of my back, I try not to bend or kneel down.
- 11. I find it difficult to get out of a chair because of my back.
- 12. My back is painful almost all the time.
- 13. I find it difficult to turn over in bed because of my back.
- 14. I have trouble putting on my socks (or stockings) because of the pain in my back.
- 15. I sleep less well because of my back.
- 16. I avoid heavy jobs around the house because of my back.
- 17. Because of my pain, I'm more irritable and bad tempered with people than usual.
- 18. Because of my back, I go upstairs more slowly than usual.

Total: \_\_\_\_\_ / 18

**Questionnaire Guide (THERAPIST USE ONLY)**

The Roland-Morris Questionnaire (RMQ) is a self-administered disability measure in which greater levels of disability are reflected by higher numbers on a 24-point scale. The RMQ has been shown to yield reliable measurements, which are valid for inferring the level of disability, and to be sensitive to change over time for groups of patients with low back pain. Little is known about the usefulness of this instrument in aiding decision making regarding individual patients. Simply count the scores for a result between 0 and 24. Scores under 4 and over 20 may not show significant change over time in patients with scores of less than 4 and deterioration in patients who have scores greater than 20. Clinical improvement over time can be graded based on the analysis of serial questionnaire scores. If, for example, at the beginning of treatment, a patient's score was 12 and, at the conclusion of treatment, her score was 2 (10 points of improvement), we would calculate an 83% ( $10/12 \times 100$ ) improvement.