

Jefferson Scale of Empathy (Generalized)

Name:

Date:

Directions: For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement.

1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Slightly Disagree, 4 = Neutral, 5 = Slightly Agree, 6 = Agree, 7 = Strongly Agree

| Score | Statement |
|-------|--|
| | 1. I believe that empathy is an important factor in patients' treatment. |
| | 2. I attempt to understand what my patients are going through emotionally. |
| | 3. It's difficult for a healthcare provider to view things from patients' perspectives. (R) |
| | 4. Patients feel better when their healthcare providers understand their feelings. |
| | 5. I try to imagine myself in my patients' shoes when providing care. |
| | 6. Understanding the emotional status of patients and their families is crucial. |
| | 7. Healthcare providers should not allow themselves to be influenced by strong personal bonds with patients. (R) |
| | 8. I believe that emotion has no place in the treatment decision-making process. (R) |
| | 9. I find that understanding patients' feelings and the emotional impact of their illnesses helps me to provide better care. |
| | 10. It's not necessary to understand patients' feelings as long as their physical health is addressed. (R) |

Final Score: _____

Scoring: Please add the values of your responses. Items marked (R) are reverse-scored. Higher scores represent a greater capacity for empathy in patient care.

Assessor's Notes/Comments:

Please remember, this is a generalized version of what the Jefferson Scale of Empathy might look like. The actual version contains more items and is psychometrically validated for use in healthcare research and education. For access to the real Jefferson Scale of Empathy, please visit the official website or contact the relevant authorities.