Functional assessment of multiple sclerosis

Rutgers University has made this article freely available. Please share how this access benefits you.
Your story matters. [https://rucore.libraries.rutgers.edu/rutgers-lib/47931/story/]

This work is the VERSION OF RECORD (VoR)
This is the fixed version of an article made available by an organization that acts as a publisher by formally and exclusively declaring the article "published". If it is an "early release" article (formally identified as being published even before the compilation of a volume issue and assignment of associated metadata), it is citable via some permanent identifier(s), and final copy-editing, proof corrections, layout, and typesetting have been applied.


Terms of Use: Copyright for scholarly resources published in RUcore is retained by the copyright holder. By virtue of its appearance in this open access medium, you are free to use this resource, with proper attribution, in educational and other non-commercial settings. Other uses, such as reproduction or republication, may require the permission of the copyright holder.

Article begins on next page
Functional Assessment of Multiple Sclerosis

### Description
The Functional Assessment of Multiple Sclerosis (FAMS) is a self-report health-related quality-of-life instrument for people with multiple sclerosis. The FAMS consists of 44 scored items in six quality-of-life domains: Mobility (seven items), Symptoms (seven items), Emotional wellbeing (seven items), General contentment (seven items), Thinking/fatigue (nine items), and Family/social wellbeing (seven items). An Additional concerns subscale consists of 15 other items that fall outside of the six domains but may provide valuable information to the clinician. The FAMS includes items across the International Classification of Functioning components of body functions, activities and participation, and environmental factors.

### Instructions to patient and scoring
On assessment, the patient indicates the appropriate response as it has applied to his/her life in the past 7 days. Items are rated on a five-point Likert scale ranging from 0 (not at all) to 4 (very much). Some items are given their original score while others are scored in reverse. The FAMS total score (range 0 to 176) is derived by adding the Mobility score. The FAMS has demonstrated moderate responsiveness to changes in health status. The reference population used in the FAMS validation study had an average total score of 107.5 (SD 32.9). Lower scores on the FAMS may predict disability progression in people with multiple sclerosis.

### Limitations
The FAMS has demonstrated moderate responsiveness to changes in health status. The reference population used in the FAMS validation study had an average total score of 107.5 (SD 32.9). Lower scores on the FAMS may predict disability progression in people with multiple sclerosis.

### Provenance
Invited. Not peer-reviewed.

### References