

Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS-4)

Questions	Circle One answer		Score
Are you basically satisfied with your life?	yes	NO	
Do you feel that your life is empty?	YES	no	
Are you afraid that something bad is going to happen to you?	YES	no	
Do you feel happy most of the time?	yes	NO	
Total			

Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS-4)

The 4 item Geriatric Depression Scale is easy and quick to perform with a high sensitivity and specificity.

GDS-4 is of limited clinical value in monitoring the severity of the depressive episode but more useful in excluding depression.
If depression is indicated then use the GDS-15 scale.

Care must be taken as dementia and depression often co-exist.

To Score: If answer chosen is in CAPITALS then give 1 mark otherwise 0

Results:

0 = Not Depressed

1 = Uncertain

2 to 4 = Depressed