

## ONLINE SCREENING AND OUTCOME ASSESSMENT IN MENTAL HEALTH: PATIENT SATISFACTION AND PSYCHIATRISTS NEEDS

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**Introduction:** Standardized scales are a helpful and objective way to measure outcomes in clinical practice. However, previous surveys have revealed that only a small percentage of psychiatrists use them in clinical practice. Time-saving and cost-efficient tools are needed for daily clinical practice. A few successful experiences using online resources have been recently described and have been positively evaluated by patients. Still, it is an underdeveloped resource.

**Objectives:**

1. Evaluate psychiatrist's perception regarding use of scales in Spanish clinical practice facilities.
2. Measure patient satisfaction using online tools.

**Aims:** Evaluate the need and potential use of online tools in routine clinical practice.

**Methods:** We conducted a survey among psychiatrists working in local clinical facilities to evaluate use of scales in daily clinical practice and their perception on the subject. We conducted a survey among patients who have used experimental online tools to evaluate their satisfaction with this method.

**Results:** We wrote an email to 54 psychiatrists asking to answer an online-survey about the subject. 47 psychiatrists answered. Among them, only 40% use them always or frequently. 47% of them felt limited resources and time to administer as a difficulty to use scales. Furthermore, 34% suggested that online implementation could be helpful. 24 patients answered the satisfaction survey. 80% of them found online scales easier and more comfortable while 63% found them faster than traditional methods.

**Conclusions:** Scales are a useful and objective way to follow-up patients and evaluate clinical outcomes. However, psychiatrists find difficulties to use them in clinical practice, mainly by limited resources and time. Online implementation of scales is perceived as a potentially helpful and efficient tool for both psychiatrists and patients.