

**NINDS CDE Notice of Copyright  
Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS)**

<b>Availability:</b>	Please visit this website for more information about the instrument: <a href="#">Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS)</a> .
<b>Classification:</b>	Supplemental for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
<b>Short Description of Instrument:</b>	<p>The Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS) is a widely used 30-question interview that queries for a current or lifetime diagnosis of PTSD according to the PTSD DSM-IV criteria. The 17-item Life Events Checklist identifies any traumatic events experienced by the patient in accordance with criterion A. Symptoms are counted as present if they have a frequency score of at least 1 (scale 0 = "none of the time" to 4 = "most or all of the time") and intensity of at least 2 (scale 0 = "none" to 4 = "extreme"). The CAPS can be administered to combat veterans or other populations that may have experienced traumatic events.</p> <p>The CAPS is widely considered as the gold standard for measuring PTSD in individuals 15 years and older.</p> <p>The CAPS is a structured interview that must be administered by a clinician or trained professional. It takes between 25 min to 1 hour to complete.</p>
<b>Scoring:</b>	A severity score can be calculated for each symptom by adding the frequency and intensity scores; scores can similarly be calculated for the three symptom clusters and for the 17 symptoms overall. The overall severity score ranges from 0 to 136.
<b>References:</b>	Blake, D. D., Weathers, F. W., Nagy, L. M., Kaloupek, D. G., Gusman, F. D., Charney, D. S., & Keane, T. M. (1995). The development of a clinician-administered PTSD scale. <i>Journal of Traumatic Stress, 8</i> , 75-90.