**Lower Extremity Functional Scale (LEFS)**

Source: Binkley JM, Stratford PW, Lott SA, Riddle DL. The Lower Extremity Functional Scale (LEFS): scale development, measurement properties, and clinical application. North American Orthopaedic Rehabilitation Research Network. *Phys Ther*. 1999 Apr;79(4):371-83.

The Lower Extremity Functional Scale (LEFS) is a questionnaire containing 20 questions about a person’s ability to perform everyday tasks. The LEFS can be used by clinicians as a measure of patients' initial function, ongoing progress and outcome, as well as to set functional goals.

The LEFS can be used to evaluate the functional impairment of a patient with a disorder of one or both lower extremities. It can be used to monitor the patient over time and to evaluate the effectiveness of an intervention.

# Scoring instructions

The columns on the scale are summed to get a total score. The maximum score is 80.

# Interpretation of scores

* The lower the score the greater the disability.
* The minimal detectable change is 9 scale points.
* The minimal clinically important difference is 9 scale points.
* % of maximal function = (LEFS score) / 80 \* 100 Performance:
* The potential error at a given point in time was +/- 5.3 scale points.
* Test-retest reliability was 0.94.
* Construct reliability was determined by comparison with the SF-36. The scale was found to be reliable with a sensitivity to change superior to the SF-36.

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# Instructions

We are interested in knowing whether you are having any difficulty at all with the activities listed below **because of your lower limb problem** for which you are currently seeking attention. Please provide an answer for **each** activity.

**Today, *do you* or *would you* have any difficulty at all with:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **Extreme difficulty or unable to perform activity** | **Quite a bit of difficulty** | **Moderate difficulty** | **A little bit of difficulty** | **No difficulty** |
| 1. Any of your usual work, housework or school activities. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2. Your usual hobbies, recreational or sporting activities. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 3. Getting into or out of the bath. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 4. Walking between rooms. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5. Putting on your shoes or socks. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 6. Squatting. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7. Lifting an object, like a bag of groceries from the floor. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8. Performing light activities around your home. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 9. Performing heavy activities around your home. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10. Getting into or out of a car. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 11. Walking 2 blocks. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12. Walking a mile. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 13. Going up or down 10 stairs (about 1 flight of stairs). | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 14. Standing for 1 hour. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 15. Sitting for 1 hour. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 16. Running on even ground. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 17. Running on uneven ground. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 18. Making sharp turns while running fast. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 19. Hopping. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 20. Rolling over in bed. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| **Column Totals:** | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |