



BRIEF: Health Literacy Screening Tool

Participant Name: _____ Date: _____

Please circle the answer that best represents the participant's response:

1. How often do you have someone help you read hospital materials?

- Always (1)
- Often (2)
- Sometimes (3)
- Occasionally (4)
- Never (5)

2. How often do you have problems learning about your medical condition because of difficulty understanding written information?

- Always (1)
- Often (2)
- Sometimes (3)
- Occasionally (4)
- Never (5)

3. How often do you have a problem understanding what is told to you about your medical condition?

- Always (1)
- Often (2)
- Sometimes (3)
- Occasionally (4)
- Never (5)

4. How confident are you filling out medical forms by yourself?

- Always (5)
- Often (4)
- Sometimes (3)
- Occasionally (2)
- Never (1)

TOTAL SCORE _____

Supports Coordinators ask participants these four questions to determine the participant's health literacy level (the degree to which one can read, understand, exchange, and use health information and resources).

Each item is worth 1 to 5 points depending on their response (as seen in numbers to the right of the answer options).

Add the values for the four responses to get a total score, which can range from a minimum of 4 to a maximum to 20. To interpret the score, refer to the following table:

BRIEF	Score	Skills and Abilities
Limited	4-12	Not able to read most low literacy health materials; will need repeated oral instructions; materials should be composed of illustrations or video tapes. Will need low literacy materials; may not be able to read a prescription label.
Marginal	13-16	May need assistance; may struggle with patient education materials.
Adequate	17-20	Will be able to read and comprehend most patient education materials.