

Number:

Date:

QUESTIONNAIRE

We are carrying out an evaluation of sexual problems in people with MS to assess barriers that you and patients may experience when addressing this. We have prepared a questionnaire and would appreciate it if you could spend 5 or 10 minutes going through this and share your thoughts. This questionnaire is anonymous and we will not be sharing any personal information.

Section One: Details about you and your practice

Please provide your details

1. Gender

Male

OR

Female

2. How old are you? _____ years

3. Are you a:

Consultant	
Nurse	
SpR	
SHO	
Therapist	
Other (please specify)	

4. Number of years since your primary qualification?

_____ years

Section Two: Sexual problems in MS

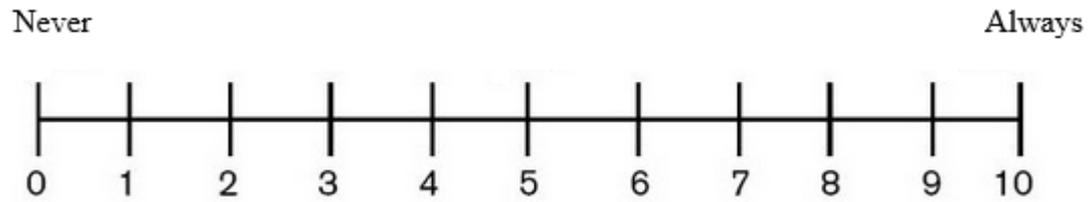
5. In your opinion, what percentage of men with MS that you see have sexual problems?

_____ %

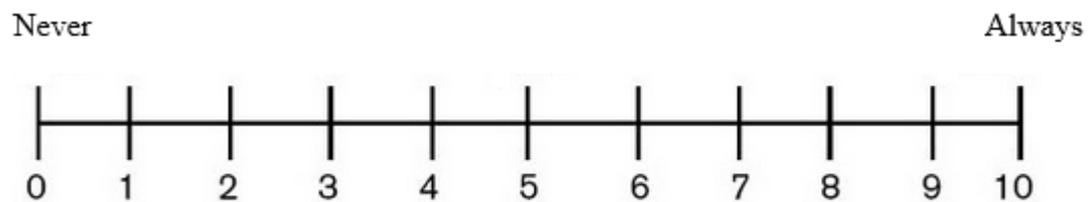
6. In your opinion, what percentage of women with MS that you see have sexual problems?

_____ %

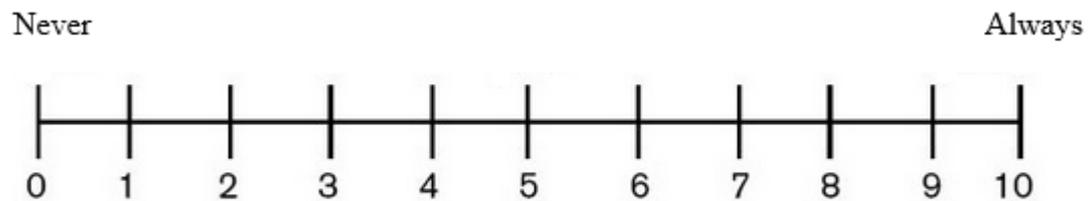
7. How often do you discuss sexual problems in men with newly diagnosed MS?



8. How often do you discuss sexual problems in women with newly diagnosed MS?



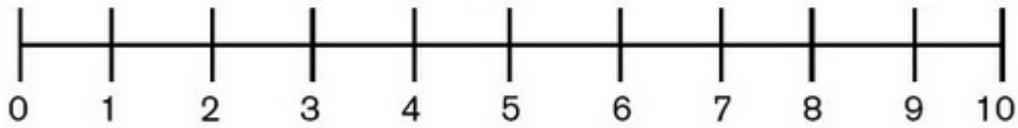
9. How often do you discuss sexual problems in men with established MS?



10. How often do you discuss sexual problems in women with established MS?

Never

Always

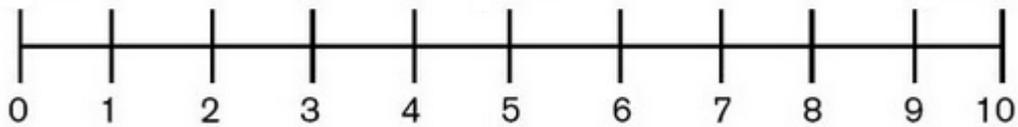


11. In a discussion with men having MS, who is most likely to initiate the conversation around sexual problems?

(a) Yourself

Never

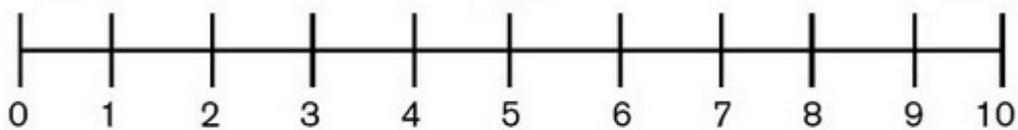
Always



(b) The Patient

Never

Always

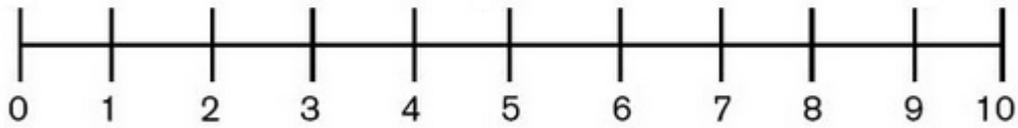


12. In a discussion with women having MS, who is most likely to initiate the conversation around sexual problems?

(a) Yourself

Never

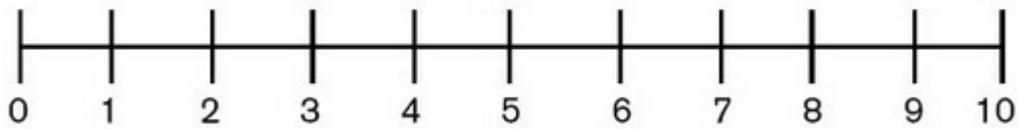
Always



(b) The Patient

Never

Always

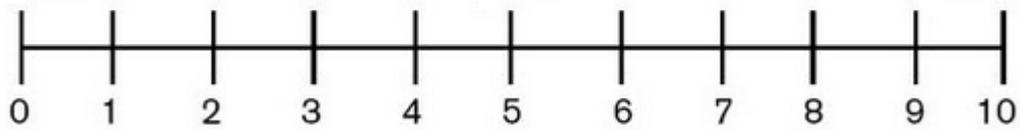


13. When do you think it is appropriate to ask a person with MS about sexual problems after they have had a relapse?

14. In your view how important do you think is for the healthcare professionals to discuss sexual problems with their patient?

Not important at all

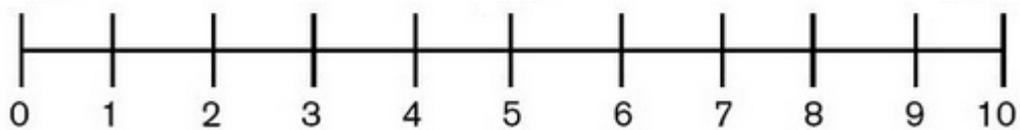
Very important



15. In your view, how important do you think sexual problems are for your patients?

Not important at all

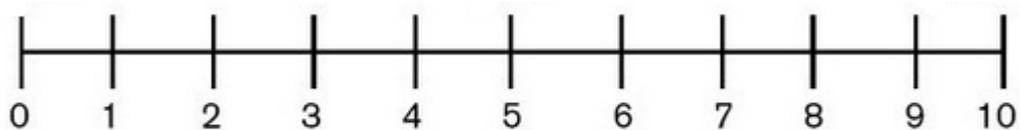
Very important



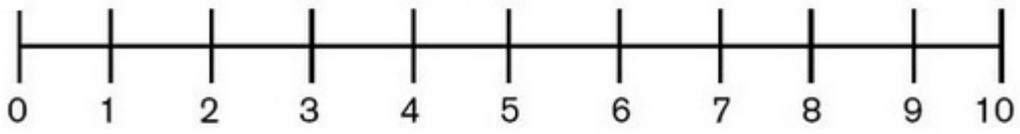
16. How would you rate your knowledge, awareness and confidence in dealing with sexual problems with patients who have MS?

(a) For men with MS

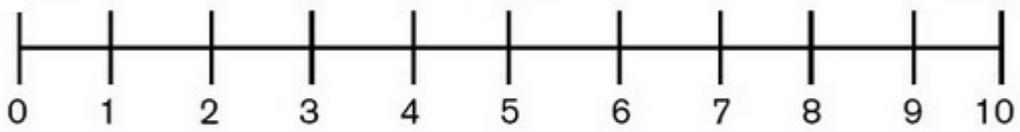
Knowledge



Awareness

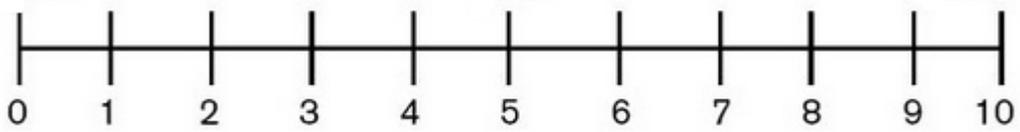


Confidence

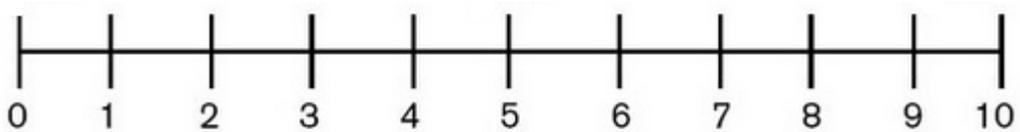


(b) For women with MS

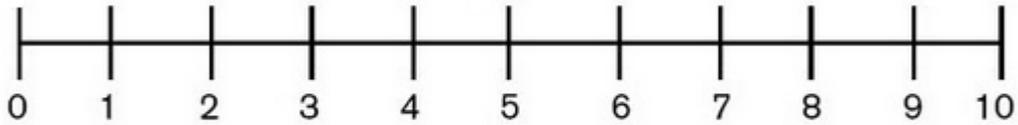
Knowledge



Awareness



Confidence



17. Do you follow a structured approach that covers problems across various domains of sexual function eg. problems with desire, erections, lubrication, ejaculation, orgasms and pain?

Please tick one

Yes

OR

No

Please could you tell us more about what you usually ask, and whether you follow any set protocols.

18. Have you referred patients onto other services for discussing sexual problems?

Please tick one

Yes

OR

No

If YES please please indicate which of the following services you may have referred patients to... (Tick as many as apply)

Counselling	
Marriage guidance counsellor	
Uro – neurology	
Sex therapist	
Psychologist	
Andrologist	
Gynecologist	
Other (please specify)	

19. Below is a possible list of barriers which may prevent you from discussing sexual health problems in people with MS. To what extent would you Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither agree nor disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree with these statements?

	1 Strongly disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neither agree nor disagree	4 Agree	5 Strongly agree
Lack of time					
Lack of knowledge in this field					
I was not trained to discuss sexual problems					
My own attitudes and beliefs about sexual problems					
I think this is not something I should address (it's someone else's job)					
I do not feel that the patient is ready to discuss the problem					

I do not see sexual dysfunction as being an MS-related problem					
The patient's other MS-related symptoms overshadow sexual problems					
I am concerned that a discussion on sexual problems may increase patient's anxiety and discomfort					
My own religious or cultural factors					
Language barriers					
Age gap between the patient and myself					
The patient is of the opposite gender					
Presence of other doctors/nurses in the consultation room					

Presence of family or friends in the consultation room					
I feel shy or embarrassed to ask					
Fear of appearing to be inappropriate					
Fear of offending the patient					
Elderly age of the patient					
Lack of rapport with the patient					
No point in asking because there's no treatment					
Patient does not ask about the problem					

20. Are there any other barriers not mentioned above?

Please tick one

Yes

OR

No

If YES please give details

21. Which individuals or resources do you think should be involved when discussing the management of sexual problems in individuals with MS?

Please tick any of the following

Consultant	
GP	
Junior doctor	
Nurse	
Physiotherapist	
Another person with MS	
Friend or Relative	
Partner	
Carer	
MS organisations eg. MS Trust or MS society	
The internet	
Other (please explain)	

22. How do you think sexual problems should ideally be managed?

23. This is the end of the questionnaire. Would you like to make any other comments?
