

Social Connectedness Measure

Tier 1 Global Items:

[Reminder: Interviewer will read these items and the response options as written, then record participant responses. Examples in parentheses () will only be used if participant requests clarification. Refer to definition of terms sheet for further clarification if necessary.]

Next, I have some general questions about social connectedness that I would like to ask you. You may have answered some of these questions when we were talking just now, but I am asking them again because I want to be certain that I understand and record your responses correctly.

Please tell me how much you agree with the following statements.

Global Item	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
G1. You feel you are part of your community.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

Global Item [do not use emoji response scale]	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
G2. You feel lonely.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

Global Item	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
G3. You would like more support to keep in contact with people who are important to you.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

Tier 2 Specific Items:

[Interviewer will read these items and the response options as written, then record participant responses. Examples in parentheses () will only be used if participant requests clarification. Refer to definition of terms sheet for further clarification if necessary.]

Next, I have some questions that will be a little more specific about Social Connectedness that I would like to ask you. You may have answered some of these questions already, but I am asking them again because I want to be certain that I understand and record your responses correctly.

Please tell me how much you agree with the following statements.

<i>[Remind participant they can use response scale card]</i>	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
S1. People in your community are friendly to you.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
S2. You have people to go to when you need information about something.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
S3. You have people to go to when you need a favor. <i>[Provide examples (1) if the participants gives an example that is not instrumental, or (2) if the question is not clear.]</i> (EXAMPLES OF FAVORS: need to borrow \$10, a ride to the doctor, take care of a pet)					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
S4. You have people in your life who help you feel better.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe)_____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
S5. You have people you can talk to.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe)_____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
S6. You spend time with friends when you want to.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe)_____

	Yes	No	NR
S7. You have as many close friends who are not your family members or staff as you want.			

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe)_____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NR
S8. Your friends come to you when they need help. <i>[Ask for examples if the participant responds "Agree" and "Strongly Agree"]</i>					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • *"I Don't Know"* (participant could not determine a response) • *Refused* • *Unclear/No Response*
 • *Other (describe)* _____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NA-I don't want to be in contact with my family	NR
S9. You keep in contact with your family members as much as you want to.						

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • *"I Don't Know"* (participant could not determine a response) • *Refused* • *Unclear/No Response*
 • *Other (describe)* _____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	NA-I don't need help	NR
S10. You have the help you need to meet with people who are important to you.						

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • *"I Don't Know"* (participant could not determine a response) • *Refused* • *Unclear/No Response*
 • *Other (describe)* _____

[If “Yes” to item 10, ask this item (S10a).]

S10a. Who do you get the help from [to meet with people who are important to you] ?	Check if applies.
Staff	
Friends who are not paid	
Paid family member(s)	
Unpaid family member(s)	
Others	[please specify]
NR	

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
 • Other (describe) _____

	Never/ Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost Always/ Always	N/A I don’t need help	NR
S11. You have the help you need to meet people you might want to be friends with.						

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
 • Other (describe) _____

[If agree or strongly agree to item S11, ask this item (S11a)]

S11a. Who do you get the help from [to meet people you might want to be friends with] ?	Check if applies.
Staff	
Friends who are not paid	
Paid family member(s)	
Unpaid family member(s)	
Others	[please specify]
NR	

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
 • Other (describe) _____

Social Connectedness Technology Items

Next, I am going to ask you some questions about how technology may be helping you see and talk to people important to you. By technology, I am talking about things that help you overcome challenges due to your disability when connecting with others. For example, something on your phone or computer that helps you talk to people. Can you tell me about any technology like this you use?

SCT1. Do you use this kind of technology to help you stay connected to the people who are important to you?	No	Yes	I don't know	NR

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

[If the participant answers NO, skip to question 5-6. If the participant answers I don’t know or NR, skip to the end of the section.]

[Reminder, only ask questions 2-4 for those answering YES to question 1]

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	NR
SCT2. When you need it, you have access to this technology to stay connected to people who are important to you.					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	NR
SCT3. It is easy to use this technology to stay connected to people who are important to you?					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response
• Other (describe) _____

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	NR
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SCT4. This technology is useful for you to stay connected to people who are important to you?					
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[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response

• Other (describe) _____

[Reminder, only ask questions 5 for those answering NO to question 1]

	No	Yes	I don’t know	NR
SCT5. Did you answer no because you do not need this kind of technology to stay connected to people who are important to you?				

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response

• Other (describe) _____

[Only ask questions 6 for those answering NO to question 5]

	No	Yes	I don’t know	NA	NR
SCT6. Do you think this kind of technology would help you to stay connected to people who are important to you?					

[INTERVIEWER ONLY SECTION] Reason for no response: • “I Don’t Know” (participant could not determine a response) • Refused • Unclear/No Response

• Other (describe) _____

Interviewer Comments

RTCOM Participant Demographics Form

Participant ID NUMBER: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Interviewer ID: _____

1) What is your Age? _____

2) With what gender do you identify? *[circle one]*

€ Male

€ Female

€ Other

€ Prefer not to answer

3) What is your race or ethnicity? *[check all races/ethnicities with which participant identifies]*

American Indian or Alaska Native	
Asian (Hmong, Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Other)	
Black or African-American	
Pacific Islander (Native Hawaiian, Guamanian, Chamorro, Samoan, or Other)	
White (Non-Hispanic)	
Hispanic/Latino (Mexican-American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or Other Hispanic)	
Other race not listed	
Don't know/Prefer not to answer	

4) What Zip Code do you live in? _____

5) Where do you live?

Alone in own (or rented) home or apartment	
Alone in own (or rented) home or apartment with a paid support person(s)	
With others in own (or rented) home or apartment	
With others in own (or rented) home or apartment with a paid support person(s)	
In a group home (residential home) with other people with disabilities supported by paid staff	
In an assisted living facility or semi-independent setting (e.g. assistance from paid staff with preparing meals, activities of daily living, managing finances, shopping)	

Other: *(please describe)*

- 6) How often **in the last three months** have you seen a healthcare professional in the emergency room, clinic/office, hospital, or at home? Some examples of healthcare professionals are a doctor, occupational therapist, physical therapist, psychiatrist/psychologist, therapist, physician assistant, nursing staff, chiropractor).

Not at all	
Less than once a month	
Once a month	
Weekly	
Daily	
24-hour care	

- 7) Do you have any of the following disabilities? *[Select all that apply]*

Physical disability (e.g. Spina Bifida, Muscular Dystrophy, spinal cord injury)	
Intellectual or developmental disability (e.g. autism, Down's Syndrome, Fragile X Syndrome, Rhett Syndrome, fetal alcohol syndrome)	
Serious mental health condition (e.g. depression, anxiety, PTSD, schizophrenia)	
Traumatic brain injury	
Age-related (e.g. Alzheimer's, dementia, mobility limitations related to aging)	
Other: (Specify)	

- 8) Now, I am going to ask you a few questions about difficulties you (they) may face on a daily basis.

Do you (they) have difficulty ...	No, no difficulty	Yes, some difficulty	Yes, a lot of difficulty	Cannot do it at all
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a. seeing, even if wearing glasses?	1	2	3	4
b. hearing, even if using a hearing aid?	1	2	3	4
c. walking or climbing steps?	1	2	3	4
d. remembering or concentrating?	1	2	3	4
e. (with self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?	1	2	3	4
f. Using your preferred language, do you (they) have difficulty communicating (for example understanding or being understood by others)?	1	2	3	4
g. using your hands?	1	2	3	4
h. understanding directions?	1	2	3	4
i. interacting with others?	1	2	3	4
j. learning at the same pace as others?	1	2	3	4

Adapted from the WHO.

9) What disability do you receive all or most of your services or supports for? *[repeat list and select only one, interviewer should also take into account participant's agency/provider]*

Physical disability (e.g. Spina Bifida, Muscular Dystrophy, spinal cord injury)	
Intellectual or developmental disability (e.g. autism, Down's Syndrome, Fragile X Syndrome, Rhett Syndrome, fetal alcohol syndrome)	
Serious mental health condition (e.g. depression, anxiety, PTSD, schizophrenia)	
Traumatic brain injury	
Age-related (e.g. Alzheimer's, dementia, mobility limitations related to aging)	

Services and Supports Section

Now, I am going to review some of the most common types of supports (Home and Community Based Services - HCBS) that people receive. I'd like to find out how often you receive each type of support. *[Use examples only if participant requests clarification]*

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Less than Monthly	Not at all	I don't know.	NR
10. How often do you receive support related to your disability at your job? (EXAMPLES: job training, coaching)							
11. How often do you receive support from a Personal Care Assistant (not a paid family member)?							

12. How often do you receive Health or Nursing support (if provided outside of an institution in person's home)?							
13. How often do you receive support from a family member(s) paid to provide the support?							
14. How often do you receive support from staff in your home (group home, assisted living facility or apartment)?							
15. How often do you receive support to take part in activities in the community?							
16. How often do you receive transportation support to get to where you need to go?							
17. How often do you receive support in your home from family or friends who are not paid to help you?							