Measurement Characteristics and Clinical Utility of the Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique Among Individuals With Spinal Cord Injury

Jason Raad, MS, Jennifer Moore, PT, DHS, NCS

Community reintegration after spinal cord injury (SCI) is usually a rehabilitation goal. Assessment of an individual’s level of community reintegration involves understanding multiple variables, including physical independence, cognitive independence, mobility, occupation, social integration, and economic self-sufficiency.1 The Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique (CHART) is a patient-reported measure that assesses how individuals with a disability participate as active members of their communities. Each domain is assessed by the 32-item instrument, and has a maximum score of 100 per domain. The total score on the CHART is a summation of each domain score, with a maximum score of 600. Higher scores on the CHART indicate a greater degree of social and community participation. The CHART is free, can be completed in less than 10 minutes, and does not require training prior to administration. Psychometric studies have indicated that the CHART demonstrates adequate to excellent reliability and validity in SCI samples.

This Rehabilitation Measures Database summary provides a review of the psychometric properties of the CHART in the SCI population, including reliability, validity, and normative values. A full review of the CHART and a link to testing documents can be found at www.rehabmeasures.org.

Please address correspondence to rehabmeasures@ric.org.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


This instrument summary is designed to facilitate the selection of outcome measures by trained clinicians. The information contained in this summary represents a sample of the peer-reviewed research available at the time of this summary’s publication. The information contained in this summary does not constitute an endorsement of this instrument for clinical practice. The views expressed are those of the summary authors and do not represent those of authors’ employers, instrument owner(s), the Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the Rehabilitation Measures Database, or the United States Department of Education. The information contained in this summary has not been reviewed externally.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure Name:</th>
<th>Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acronym:</td>
<td>CHART</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summary Authors:</td>
<td>Raad J, Moore J</td>
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<td>Population Reviewed:</td>
<td>Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), others at <a href="http://www.rehabmeasures.org">www.rehabmeasures.org</a></td>
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<td>Admin Time:</td>
<td>15 to 30min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Items:</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Score:</td>
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**Purpose and Administration Instructions:**
- A patient-reported measure that assesses the extent to which people with disabilities are able to function as active members of their communities
- Assesses 6 domains: physical independence, cognitive independence, mobility, occupation, social integration, and economic self-sufficiency

**Validity:**
- *Adequate to Excellent* criterion-related validity between the CIQ and CHART-SF* total scores in patients with SCI¹
- *Poor to Excellent* criterion-related validity between CIQ and CHART-SF domains in patients with SCI¹
- Evidence of discriminant validity; employed versus unemployed Japanese patients with SCI**²

**Floor/Ceiling Effects:**
- Individuals with any level of injury and classified as ASIA D demonstrated substantial ceiling effects on all CHART subscales⁵
- Individuals with paraplegia and classified as ASIA A, B, or C demonstrated substantial ceiling effects on all CHART subscales⁵

**Scoring Instructions:**
- Each of the 6 domains are scored on a 100-point scale (600 points total); scales are normed against individuals without disabilities living in the community.
- Scoring information can be found in the instrument’s manual.

**Considerations:**
- Proxy responders (caregivers) tend to rate a patient’s impairment as more severe.⁶
- Proxy/patient agreement was lowest for the social integration domain.³
- Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Italian versions of the CHART are available.

**Abbreviations and cut-off points:**
- CHART: Original version (32 items)
- *CHART-SF: Short Form (19 items)
- **CHART-J: Japanese version
- CIQ: Community Integration Questionnaire
- ASIA: American Spinal Injury Association Classifications

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<thead>
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<th>Cut-off Criteria:</th>
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<th>ICC</th>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>≥0.6</td>
<td>≥.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>.31–.59</td>
<td>.40–.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>≤0.3</td>
<td>&lt;0.4</td>
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