

TOURETTE SYNDROME CHECKLIST

Glynis Hannell BA (Hons) MSc Psychologist

Name of child or adolescent

Age

Each item should be checked off using the following rating scale

- 0 Not at all, never occurs, does not apply
- 1 Mild, sometimes observed, applies to some extent
- 2 Moderate, often observed, certainly applies
- 3 Severe, frequently observed, strongly applies

Vocal tics

Makes sudden, recurrent, rapid vocal noises (vocal tics)	0	1	2	3
Vocal tics resembling a cough, sniff, snort, yelp, bark, grunt	0	1	2	3
Vocal tics such as swearing, obscenities, or repetition of words.....	0	1	2	3
Vocal tics are involuntary and cannot be easily controlled	0	1	2	3
Vocal tics can be temporarily suppressed with effort	0	1	2	3
Is unaware that they are making unusual noises	0	1	2	3

Motor tics

Sudden recurrent minor tics such as throat clearing, blinking.....	0	1	2	3
Socially inappropriate tics such as tongue protrusion, grimace.....	0	1	2	3
Complex motor tics, squatting, twirling, retracing steps	0	1	2	3
Motor tics can be temporarily suppressed with effort.....	0	1	2	3
Is unaware that they are making unusual movements.....	0	1	2	3

Vocal or motor tics occur frequently and continuously

Tics often occur in bouts	0	1	2	3
Tics occur at random times	0	1	2	3
Tics occur many times a day.....	0	1	2	3
Tics occur on most days.....	0	1	2	3
Tics continue for months at a time	0	1	2	3
Sometimes has periods of remission	0	1	2	3

Appears during childhood or adolescence

Began having tics between 2 and 18 years of age	Yes	No	Don't Know
Started with minor symptoms such as eye blinking.....	Yes	No	Don't Know
Stimulant medication triggered tics	Yes	No	Don't Know

Learning difficulties

Difficulties with literacy	0	1	2	3
Difficulties with mathematics.....	0	1	2	3



Tics change with circumstances

Tics subdued when very interested or absorbed in an activity	0	1	2	3
Tics subdued during sleep	0	1	2	3
Tics increase or worsen when under stress	0	1	2	3

Obsessive-Compulsive symptoms

Compulsive behaviour, repetitive hand washing, re-checking	0	1	2	3
Compulsive thoughts, counting, praying, repeating words silently	0	1	2	3
Obsessional anxieties such as fear of contamination	0	1	2	3
Needs to have things in a particular order	0	1	2	3

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Behaviour is impulsive, does not stop to think	0	1	2	3
Physically restless, finds it hard to keep still	0	1	2	3
Has difficulties with organization	0	1	2	3
Is easily distracted	0	1	2	3
Poor concentration, lacks focus	0	1	2	3

Social or emotional difficulties

Embarrassed or anxious about tics	0	1	2	3
Teasing or harassment an issue at school	0	1	2	3
Tends to be anxious about minor things	0	1	2	3
Seems depressed	0	1	2	3

Positive characteristics and strengths (describe at least 3)

Important notes

This checklist can be used to help diagnose and assess Tourette Syndrome. However, several conditions have similar characteristics and there may be a range of explanations for the observations made. Specialist assessment is necessary for a formal diagnosis.

- Supporting notes on Tourette Syndrome (pages 84–7)
- Guides for discussions with colleagues, parents and students (pages 184–8)

