

THE MODIFIED OVERT AGGRESSION SCALE (MOAS)

Client Name	Date of Birth / /	Soc. Sec.# - -
Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Language	Medicaid ID #
Parent/Guardian Name		Relationship
Date of Scale Completion / /		Rater
Instructions		
Rate the patient's aggressive behavior over the past week. Select as many items as are appropriate.		
Verbal Aggression		
_____ 0	No verbal aggression	
_____ 1	Shouts angrily, curses mildly, or makes personal insults	
_____ 2	Curses viciously, is severely insulting, has temper outbursts	
_____ 3	Impulsively threatens violence toward others or self	
_____ 4	Threatens violence toward others or self repeatedly or deliberately	
_____	SUM VERBAL AGGRESSION SCORE	
Aggression Against Property		
_____ 0	No aggression against property	
_____ 1	Slams door, rips clothing, urinates on floor	
_____ 2	Throws objects down, kicks furniture, defaces walls	
_____ 3	Breaks objects, smashes windows	
_____ 4	Sets fires, throws objects dangerously	
_____	SUM PROPERTY AGGRESSION SCORE	
Autoaggression		
_____ 0	No autoaggression	
_____ 1	Picks or scratches skin, pulls hair out, hits self (without injury)	
_____ 2	Bangs head, hits fists into walls, throws self onto floor	
_____ 3	Inflicts minor cuts, bruises, burns, or welts on self	
_____ 4	Inflicts major injury on self or makes a suicide attempt	
_____	SUM AUTOAGGRESSION SCORE	

Physical Aggression	
_____ 0	No physical aggression
_____ 1	Makes menacing gestures, swings at people, grabs at clothing
_____ 2	Strikes, pushes, scratches, pulls hair of others (without injury)
_____ 3	Attacks others, causing mild injury (bruises, sprain, welts, etc.)
_____ 4	Attacks others, causing serious injury
_____	SUM PHYSICAL AGGRESSION SCORE

CATEGORY	SUM SCORE	WEIGHTS	WEIGHTED SUM
Verbal Aggression		X 1	
Aggression Against Property		X 2	
Autoaggression		X 3	
Physical Aggression		X 4	
Total Weighted Score			

Scoring
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add items in each category. 2. In scoring summary, multiply sum by weight and add weighted sums for total weighted score. 3. Use this score to assess severity and track changes in level of aggression over time.

SOURCE:

Modified from Kay SR, Wolkenfelf F, Murrill LM (1988), Profiles of aggression among psychiatric patients: I. nature and prevalence. *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease* 176:539-546 as modified by American Academy of Pediatrics.