

Primary Care PTSD Screen (PC-PTSD)

In your life, have you ever had any experience that was so frightening, horrible, or upsetting that, in the past month, you:

1.	Have had nightmares about it or thought about it when you did not want to?	Yes	No
2.	Tried hard not to think about it or went out of your way to avoid situations that reminded you of it?	Yes	No
3.	Were constantly on guard, watchful, or easily startled?	Yes	No
4.	Felt numb or detached from others, activities, or your surroundings	Yes	No

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Scoring and Interpretation:

Current research suggests that the results of the PC-PTSD should be considered "positive" if a patient answers "yes" to any three items. Those screening positive should then be assessed with a structured interview for PTSD. The screen does not include a list of potentially traumatic events.

References:

- Prins, A., Ouimette, P., Kimerling, R., Cameron, R. P., Hugelshofer, D. S., Shaw-Hegwer, J., Thraikill, A., Gusman, F.D., Sheikh, J. I. (2003). (PDF) The primary care PTSD screen (PC-PTSD): development and operating characteristics. *Primary Care Psychiatry*, 9, 9-14
- Prins, A., Ouimette, P., Kimerling, R., Cameron, R. P., Hugelshofer, D. S., Shaw-Hegwer, J., Thraikill, A., Gusman, F.D., Sheikh, J. I. (2004). The primary care PTSD screen (PC-PTSD): Corrigendum. *Primary Care Psychiatry*, 9, 151
- United States Department of Veterans Affairs National Center for PTSD. Available at: <http://www.ptsd.va.gov> Accessed March 15, 2012.