
The Work Stressors Scale – Children's Hospices (WSS-CH)

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This scale looks at situations and events which children’s hospice staff report encountering at work.

For each statement please tick [✓] the box (on the left) that best describes how often you have encountered this situation or event during the past 6 months. **Then** tell us how stressful this has been for you by ticking [✓] ‘Not at all’, ‘A little’ or ‘A lot’ (on the right).

During the past 6 months:						
How often have you encountered this situation?				How stressful have you found this?		
Rarely	Sometimes	Often		Not at all	A little	A lot
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Having to answer parents’ questions during the end-of-life stage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other members of the multi-disciplinary team not responding to my requests for help	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other staff being quick to find fault with me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Talking to children about distressing subjects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling my skills are not recognised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Watching a child deteriorate day-by-day	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A parent getting upset	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Difficulties liaising with other services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	When a child deteriorates very quickly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Containing my emotions after the death of a child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Families becoming dependent on me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not feeling sure how much parents have understood what I’ve told them	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not knowing after a child dies whether we chose the right approach	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seeing a child’s body deteriorate after death	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parents expecting me to do things that are not part of my job	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A parent not letting me talk to their child alone	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

During the past 6 months:						
How often have you encountered this situation?				How stressful have you found this?		
Rarely	Sometimes	Often		Not at all	A little	A lot
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parents not supporting what I'm doing with their child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Families being aggressive towards other members of the multi-disciplinary team	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caring for a family who is in desperate social circumstances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lots of very complex children at the same time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Having to be positive with a family when I know the outcome will not be good	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling my work is being closely monitored by managers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Supporting the family after the death of their child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Managers placing unfair demands on me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Supporting parents who feel guilty about treatment decisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The sudden death of a child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Being involved in telling parents their child's diagnosis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dealing with parents who are in conflict with each other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not having time when a family asks for help	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not agreeing with how a parent is behaving towards their child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling that a child's care is being compromised	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Being expected to take on a wide variety of tasks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A prolonged death	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling responsible for a child's distress	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not having a quiet space available	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Difficulty establishing a relationship with a family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

During the past 6 months:						
How often have you encountered this situation?				How stressful have you found this?		
Rarely	Sometimes	Often		Not at all	A little	A lot
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Working with a team member who isn't pulling their weight	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Being involved in a consultation where parents are told the prognosis is worse than we thought	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagreements about how best to care for a child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Being responsible for controlling the symptoms of a dying child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parents not understanding the importance of adhering to medical regimes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling like everything I do can have major consequences for a child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>