### Availability:
The FIM™ is proprietary. For further information about obtaining the scale, syllabus, and training materials please contact:

- Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation
  - 270 Northpointe Parkway, Suite 300
  - Amherst, New York 14228
  - (716) 817-7800 FAX (716) 568-0037
  - email: info@udsmr.org

Web site: Please click here for more information about the Functional Independence Measure

### Classification:
- Basic for: Acute/Hospitalized and Moderate/Severe Rehabilitation Traumatic Brain Injury
- Supplemental for: Concussion/Mild TBI and Epidemiology TBI

### Short Description of Instrument:
The FIM(TM) is an 18-item ordinal scale, used with all diagnoses within a rehabilitation population. Items are grouped into two subscales: Motor and Cognitive. The FIM(TM) measures degree of independence in activities of self-care, sphincter control, transfers, locomotion, communication, and cognition.

FIM was originally an acronym for "Functional Independence Measure". It is still often cited as this in the literature. The current owners of the FIM™ instrument have decided that the acronym FIM™ no longer stands for anything and should be referred to only as FIM™.

The Cognitive Subscale consists of 5 items:
- Comprehension
- Expression
- Social interaction
- Problem solving
- Memory

May be completed by rehabilitation clinicians as an observational scale, or by trained paraprofessionals or family members. May be administered by trained interviewers as a self-report or proxy report instrument, in person or by phone. FIM(TM) certification is available and required to officially utilize the tool. A detailed manual guides scoring, based on operationally-defined functional abilities. Administration time is 10-20 minutes.
## Scoring:
FIM(TM) scores range from 1 (total or >75% assistance) to 7 (complete independence). Total score range= 18-126. Five item Cognitive subscore ranges from 5-35. Scores may be used raw or converted to interval scores. Higher scores indicate greater independence.

## Psychometric Properties:
Inter-rater reliability was found to be high for the total score and moderate to substantial for items assessing physical disability, except for the item concerned with assessing independence in walking or in wheelchair. The inter-rater agreement of FIM™ items in the communication and social cognition subsections was only fair. The internal consistency of the FIM™ assessment scale was found to be high.

Most appropriate for Severe and Moderate Disability levels of GOSE; ceiling effects limit utility in Good Recovery. Not sufficiently sensitive for mild TBI.

## References:
