MORNINGNESS-EVENINGNESS QUESTIONNAIRE (revised)

Name: _____________________________ Date: ____________________________

For each question, please select the answer that best describes you by checking the corresponding box. Make your judgments based on how you have felt in recent weeks.

1. *Approximately* what time would you get up if you were entirely free to plan your day?

- [ ] 5:00 a.m. – 6:30 a.m.  5
- [ ] 6:30 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.  4
- [ ] 7:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.  3
- [ ] 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  2
- [ ] 11:00 a.m. – 12 noon  1

2. *Approximately* what time would you go to bed if you were entirely free to plan your evening?

- [ ] 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  5
- [ ] 9:00 p.m. – 10:15 p.m.  4
- [ ] 10:15 p.m. – 12:30 a.m.  3
- [ ] 12:30 a.m. – 1:45 a.m.  2
- [ ] 1:45 a.m. – 3:00 a.m.  1

3. If you usually have to get up at a specific time in the morning, how much do you depend on an alarm clock?

- [ ] Not at all  4
- [ ] Slightly  3
- [ ] Somewhat  2
- [ ] Very much  1

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1Some stem questions and item choices have been rephrased from the original instrument (Horne and Östberg, 1976) to conform with spoken American English. Discrete item choices have been substituted for continuous graphic scales. Prepared by Terman M, Rifkin JB, Jacobs J, and White TM. New York State Psychiatric Institute, 1051 Riverside Drive, Unit 50, New York, NY, 10032. Supported by NIH Grant MH42931. See also: automated version (AutoMEQ) at www.cet.org.

4. How easy do you find it to get up in the morning (when you are not awakened unexpectedly)?

- Very difficult 1
- Somewhat difficult 2
- Fairly easy 3
- Very easy 4

5. How alert do you feel during the first half hour after you wake up in the morning?

- Not at all alert 1
- Slightly alert 2
- Fairly alert 3
- Very alert 4

6. How hungry do you feel during the first half hour after you wake up?

- Not at all hungry 1
- Slightly hungry 2
- Fairly hungry 3
- Very hungry 4

7. During the first half hour after you wake up in the morning, how do you feel?

- Very tired 1
- Fairly tired 2
- Fairly refreshed 3
- Very refreshed 4

8. If you had no commitments the next day, what time would you go to bed compared to your usual bedtime?

- Seldom or never later 4
- Less that 1 hour later 3
- 1-2 hours later 2
- More than 2 hours later 1
9. You have decided to do physical exercise. A friend suggests that you do this for one hour twice a week, and the best time for him is between 7-8 a.m. Bearing in mind nothing but your own internal “clock,” how do you think you would perform?

- Would be in good form [4]
- Would be in reasonable form [3]
- Would find it difficult [2]
- Would find it very difficult [1]

10. At approximately what time in the evening do you feel tired, and, as a result, in need of sleep?

- 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. [5]
- 9:00 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. [4]
- 10:15 p.m. – 12:45 a.m. [3]
- 12:45 a.m. – 2:00 a.m. [2]
- 2:00 a.m. – 3:00 a.m. [1]

11. You want to be at your peak performance for a test that you know is going to be mentally exhausting and will last two hours. You are entirely free to plan your day. Considering only your “internal clock,” which one of the four testing times would you choose?

- 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. [6]
- 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. [4]
- 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. [2]
- 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. [0]

12. If you got into bed at 11 p.m., how tired would you be?

- Not at all tired [0]
- A little tired [2]
- Fairly tired [3]
- Very tired [5]
13. For some reason you have gone to bed several hours later than usual, but there is no need to get up at any particular time the next morning. Which one of the following are you most likely to do?

- Will wake up at usual time, but will not fall back asleep  
  - Will wake up at usual time and will doze thereafter  
  - Will wake up at usual time, but will fall asleep again  
  - Will not wake up until later than usual

14. One night you have to remain awake between 4-6 a.m. in order to carry out a night watch. You have no time commitments the next day. Which one of the alternatives would suit you best?

- Would not go to bed until the watch is over  
  - Would take a nap before and sleep after  
  - Would take a good sleep before and nap after  
  - Would sleep only before the watch

15. You have two hours of hard physical work. You are entirely free to plan your day. Considering only your internal “clock,” which of the following times would you choose?

- 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.  
  - 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
  - 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.  
  - 7p.m. – 9 p.m.

16. You have decided to do physical exercise. A friend suggests that you do this for one hour twice a week. The best time for her is between 10-11 p.m. Bearing in mind only your internal “clock,” how well do you think you would perform?

- Would be in good form  
  - Would be in reasonable form  
  - Would find it difficult  
  - Would find it very difficult
17. Suppose you can choose your own work hours. Assume that you work a five-hour day (including breaks), your job is interesting, and you are paid based on your performance. At approximately what time would you choose to begin?

- 5 hours starting between 4:00 – 8:00 a.m.  
- 5 hours starting between 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.  
- 5 hours starting between 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
- 5 hours starting between 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
- 5 hours starting between 5:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m.  

18. At approximately what time of day do you usually feel your best?

- 5:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.  
- 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
- 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
- 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
- 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.  

19. One hears about “morning types” and “evening types.” Which one of these types do you consider yourself to be?

- Definitely a morning type  
- Rather more a morning type than an evening type  
- Rather more an evening type than a morning type  
- Definitely an evening type  

Total: _________

Add the numbers you circled for questions 1-19 here - you should only circle one per question. The total is your MEQ score.
Interpreting Your MEQ Score

Your score also tells us a lot about the timing of your neurohormones. Doctors used to figure out the optimal time to start light therapy by measuring melatonin levels, until a research team at Columbia University discovered that the MEQ score is just as informative. You can match up your score with the optimal time to start light therapy in the chart below. Turning on the box at that time, or at least within an hour of it, will enhance its antidepressant effects.

Although the times below are ideal, don't give up if you can't fit light therapy in at the exact time. Start it as close as you can, but aim for the morning. Light therapy may have reverse effects - disrupting sleep cycle and causing mood problems - if used too late in the day (e.g. more than 6-8 hours past your recommended time).

Sit at close range under the box (it should be no more than 14 inches from your head) for 30 minutes. Angle the light so it's tilted over your head at a 45 degree angle. The goal is to imitate the angle of the sun, and as with the sun you shouldn't look straight into it. Talk with your provider to help individualize your timing - sometimes longer sessions are needed (e.g. 1-2 hours) and sometimes shorter ones are necessary (e.g. lowering to 15 min or stopping altogether if you develop mania, irritability, or agitation with light therapy).

It takes about 2-4 weeks to see the full benefit, but you may see improvement as early as 3 days.

The test results also indicate what type of circadian rhythm you have. Night owls tend to have low scores, while a high score means you are more of a morning person.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Morningness-Eveningness Score</th>
<th>Start time for light therapy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23-26</td>
<td>6:15 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-30</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>31-34</td>
<td>7:45 AM</td>
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