

Name of Instrument: **The Injury Severity Score (ISS) and New Injury Severity Score (NISS)**

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**Privacy Use Cost:** \$

**Public Use Cost:** \$

**Year Developed:** 1974, 2001

**Where to obtain Instrument:**

- Contact author

**Description of the Instrument**

- To classify and rate the severity of injuries.
- ISS is derived from the abbreviated injury scale (AIS), an ordinal scale ranging from 1 (minor injury) to 6 (maximum injury, possibly death) to rate nine body regions.
- The ISS, an ordinal scale with a range from 1 to 75, is computed as the sum of the squares of the highest AIS scores for the three most severely injured body regions.
- ISS was developed to predict mortality.
- The new injury severity score (NISS) is computed as the simple sum of squares of the three most severe AIS injuries, regardless of body region.
- Two studies reported NISS is more predictive of survival and performs better, statistically, than ISS.

**Form of instrument:**

- Other: records from trauma centres

**Method of delivery:**

- Audit of records

**Relevance to injury/ Percentage of the instrument specific to injury**

- To evaluate /predict the time it takes for patients admitted with trauma to return to pre-injury levels of functioning.

**Time to administer or complete the instrument**

**Methods of data analyses:**

- Quantitative

**Setting/sample instrument used in:**

- Three datasets were used: 1) the National Pediatric Trauma Registry (NPTR); 2) the Massachusetts Uniform Hospital Discharge Data Set (UHDDS); and 3) a trauma registry from an urban level I trauma center in Massachusetts.

**Was it pilot tested?** No

**Pilot test sample:****Reliability Measures****Validity Measures****Reference**

Stevenson, M., Segui-Gomez, M., Lescossier, I., Di Scala, C., & McDonald-Smith, G. (2001). An overview of the injury severity score and the new injury severity score. Injury Prevention, 7, 10-13.

**Other References**

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**Keywords:** injury, injury severity, mortality.