Exercise

Professional Version | US English

OCD Hierarchy



Description

Part of traditional CBT treatment for OCD is exposure to situations which trigger obsessions (classically accompanied by the prevention of the associated compulsion). The OCD Hierarchy worksheet helps you to plan a hierarchy of situations which trigger obsessions. These can then be tackled in order of increasing difficulty.

OCD Hierarchy

Make a list of situations that trigger your OCD obsessions and compulsions. Put them in order of least anxiety-provoking at the bottom, to most anxiety-provoking at the top. Give each one a rating (0–100%) for how distressing it would be.

	Situation	Distress (0–100%)
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OCD Hierarchy

Make a list of situations that trigger your OCD obsessions and compulsions. Put them in order of least anxiety-provoking at the bottom, to most anxiety-provoking at the top. Give each one a rating (0–100%) for how distressing it would be.

Situation	Distress (0–100%)
Eating food that has touched a toilet seat.	100
Touching a toilet seat.	80
Touching a bin.	75
Using a public bathroom door handle with my hand.	60
Using a cup that someone else has drunk from.	55
Handling raw chicken.	45
Emptying the cat litter tray.	30
Shaking hands with someone.	25
Sitting in a doctor's waiting room.	20
Touching old coins.	10

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Our tools are flexible enough to be used both in-session and between-session, and during all stages of assessment, formulation, and intervention. Written by highly qualified clinicians and academics, materials are available in digital and printable formats across a wide range of languages.



Resource details

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