

# The British Isles Lupus Assessment Group (BILAG) Assessment Form

<b>(All events refer to the previous month unless noted otherwise)</b>	
Patient:	
Hospital number:	
Date of assessment:	
Treatment: Maximum dose in last month or since last visit	
<b>GENERAL</b>	
Answer: 1) Improving 2) Same 3) Worse 4) New	
1. Pyrexia (documented)	
2. Weight loss - unintentional > 5%	
3. Lymphadenopathy / splenomegaly	
4. Fatigue / malaise / lethargy	
5. Anorexia / nausea / vomiting	
<b>MUCOCUTANEOUS</b>	
Answer: 1) Improving 2) Same 3) Worse 4) New	
6. Maculopapular rash - severe, active (discoïd / bullous)	
7. Maculopapular eruption - mild	
8. Active discoïd lesions - generalized, extensive	
9. Active discoïd lesions - local, inc. lupus profundus	
10. Alopecia - severe, active	
11. Alopecia - mild	
12. Severe panniculitis	
13. Angioedema	
14. Extensive mucosal ulceration	
15. Small mucosal ulcers	
16. Malar erythema	
17. Subcutaneous nodules	
18. Pernioteic skin lesions	
19. Periungual erythema	
20. Swollen fingers Y/N	
21. Sclerodactyly Y/N	
22. Calcinosis Y/N	
23. Telangiectasia Y/N	

<b>NEUROLOGICAL</b>	
Answer: 1) Improving 2) Same 3) Worse 4) New	
24. Deteriorating level of consciousness	
25. Acute psychosis or delirium or confusional state	
26. Seizures	
27. Stroke or stroke syndrome	
28. Aseptic meningitis	
29. Mononeuritis multiplex	
30. Ascending or transverse myelitis	
31. Peripheral or cranial neuropathy	
32. Disc swelling/cyloid bodies	
33. Chorea	
34. Cerebellar ataxia	
35. Headaches - severe unremitting	
36. Organic depressive illness	
37. Organic brain syndrome inc. pseudotumor cerebri	
38. Episodic migrainous headaches =	
<b>MUSCULOSKELETAL</b>	
Answer: 1) Improving 2) Same 3) Worse 4) New	
39. Definite myositis (Bohan and Peter)	
40. Severe polyarthritis - with loss of function	
41. Arthritis	
42. Tendonitis	
43. Mild chronic myositis	
44. Arthralgia	
45. Myalgia	
46. Tendon contractures and fixed deformity	
47. Aseptic necrosis	
<b>CARDIOVASCULAR AND RESPIRATORY</b>	
Answer: 1) Improving 2) Same 3) Worse 4) New	
48. Pleuropericardial pain	
49. Dyspnea	
50. Cardiac failure	

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51. Friction rub	
52. Effusion (pericardial or pleural)	
53. Mild or intermittent chest pain	
54. Progressive CXR changes - lungs Y/N	
55. Progressive CXR changes - heart Y/N	
56. ECC evidence of pericarditis or myocarditis Y/N	
57. Cardiac arrhythmias including tachycardia > 100 in absence of fever	
58. Pulmonary function fall by > 20% Y/N	
59. Cyto-histological evidence of inflammatory lung disease	
<b>VASCULITIS</b>	
<b>Answer: 1) Improving 2) Same 3) Worse 4) New</b>	
60. Major cutaneous vasculitis including ulcers	
61. Major abdominal crisis due to vasculitis	
62. Recurrent thromboembolism (excluding stroke)	
63. Raynaud's	
64. Livedo reticularis	
65. Superficial phlebitis	
66. Minor cutaneous vasculitis (nailfold, digital, purpura, ulcers)	
67. Thromboembolism (excluding stroke) 1st episode	
<b>RENAL</b>	
<b>Answer with number (value) or Y/N</b>	
68. Systolic BP mmHg	
69. Diastolic BP (5th phase)	
70. Accelerated hypertension Y/N	
71. Dipstick ( - = 1 , ++ = 2 , +++ = 3 )	
72. 24 h urine protein (g)	
73. Newly documented proteinuria of > 1 g/24 h	
74. Nephrotic syndrome Y/N	
75. Creatinine (plasma/serum)	
76. Creatinine clearance/GFR (ml/min)	
77. Active urinary sediment Y/N	
78. Histological evidence of active nephritis (within 3 months)	

<b>HEMATOLOGY</b>	
<b>Answer with number (value) or Y/N</b>	
79. Hemoglobin (g/dl)	
80. Total white cell count x 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	
81. Neutrophils x 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	
82. Lymphocytes x 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	
83. Platelets x 10 <sup>9</sup> /l	
84. Evidence of active hemolysis	
85. Coombs test positive	
86. Evidence of circulating anticoagulant	

<b>Table 1 Scoring system for the BILAG index (version 3)</b>	
Category A	Denotes disease thought to be sufficiently active to require disease-modifying treatment (prednisolone > 20 mg daily or immunosuppressants)
Category B	Denotes disease which is less active than in "A"; mild reversible problems requiring only symptomatic therapy such as antimalarials, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or prednisolone < 20 mg/day
Category C	Indicates stable mild disease
Category D	System previously affected but currently inactive
Category E	Indicates system never involved

Adapted from Hay EM, et al.

## References

Hay EM, Bacon PA, Gordon C, et al. The BILAG index: a reliable and valid instrument for measuring clinical disease activity in systemic lupus erythematosus. *Q J Med.* 1993;86:447-458.