

Interpretation of the Carol Postpartum Sexual Function and Dyspareunia Assessment Scale - The Carol Scale. López-Lapeyrere, C., Serna-Gómez, N., Hernández-López, A. B., Pérez-García, M. F., Tejeda-Esteban, A., & Solís-Muñoz, M. (2018). *The development and validation of a new postpartum sexual function and dyspareunia assessment tool: The Carol Scale. Midwifery, 58, 27-36*

FACTORS OR DIMENSIONS	CAROL SCALE ITEMS	Partial score	Total score	INTERPRETATION
PREPARATION FOR THE SEXUAL ACT				
Emotional domain			0-8*	6-8: without discomfort; 3-5: moderate discomfort; 0-2: severe discomfort
Item 1	Frequency of desire before initiating sexual activity	0-4*		
Item 2	Frequency of arousal during sexual activity	0-4*		
Lubrication domain			0-4*	3-4: without discomfort; 2: moderate discomfort; 0-1: severe discomfort
Item 3	Frequency of vaginal lubrication or wetness during sexual activity	0-4*		
PAIN OR DISCOMFORT ON CARESSING THE VULVAL AREA				
Item 4	Frequency of pain or discomfort when touching or caressing the vulva and perineum during sexual stimulation	0-4**	0-14**	0-4: without discomfort/mild discomfort; 5-7: moderate discomfort; 8-14: severe discomfort
Item 8	Intensity of pain or discomfort when touching or caressing the vulva and perineum during sexual stimulation	0-10**		
PAIN OR DISCOMFORT DURING PENETRATION OR VAGINAL INTERCOURSE				
Pain during penetration domain			0-14**	0-4: without discomfort/mild discomfort; 5-7: moderate discomfort; 8-14: severe discomfort
Item 5	Frequency of pain or discomfort at the moment of vaginal penetration	0-4**		
Item 9	Intensity of pain or discomfort at the moment of vaginal penetration	0-10**		

Pain during intercourse domain			0-14**	0-4: without discomfort/mild discomfort; 5-7: moderate discomfort; 8-14: severe discomfort
Item 6	Frequency of pain or discomfort during vaginal intercourse	0-4**		
Item 10	Intensity of pain or discomfort during vaginal intercourse	0-10**		
PAIN OR DISCOMFORT AFTER SEXUAL ACTIVITY			0-14**	0-4: without discomfort/ mild discomfort; 5-7: moderate discomfort; 8-14: severe discomfort
Item 7	Frequency of pain or discomfort after finishing vaginal intercourse	0-4**		
Item 11	Intensity of pain or discomfort after finishing vaginal intercourse	0-10**		

NOTE: *The best value is the highest

****The best value is the lowest**