

WHO performance status: Lansky/Karnofsky conversion table

The 'WHO score at diagnosis' is the performance status of the patient at the moment of diagnosis (synonyms: ECOG/Zubrod score). Although this score is important for all outcome-based analyses (e.g. quality indicators), it is often not determined or registered. In addition, it can be difficult to assign a WHO performance score to children.

Therefore the Belgian Cancer Registry proposes the additional use of the following equivalent scales:

- **Lansky play-performance scale** (for patients < 16 years of age)
- **Karnofsky performance scale** (for patients ≥ 16 years of age)

NB: The Lansky scale also applies to children between 0 and 1 year of age, since there is no specific performance scale for this age group.

The Lansky and Karnofsky scores range from 100 to 10 and can be converted to the WHO score (range 0-4) using the following conversion table:

WHO score	Lansky/ Karnofsky score	Lansky level of performance (< 16 years)	Karnofsky level of performance (≥ 16 years)
0	100	Fully active; normal	Normal, no complaints or signs of disease
1	90	Minor restrictions in physically strenuous activities	Able to carry on normal activities; minor signs or symptoms of disease
	80	Active, but tires more quickly	Normal activity with effort
2	70	Restriction in and less time spent in active play	Care for self; unable to carry on normal activity or to do active work
	60	Up and around; minimal active play; keeps busy with quieter activities	Requires occasional assistance, but able to care for most of his needs
3	50	Gets dressed but lies around much of the day; no active play; able to participate in all quiet play and activities	Requires considerable assistance and frequent medical care
	40	Mostly in bed; participates in quiet activities	Disabled; requires special care and assistance
4	30	In bed; needs assistance even with quiet play	Severely disabled; hospitalisation indicated though death non-imminent
	20	In bed, often sleeping; play limited to very passive activities	Very sick; hospitalisation necessary; active supportive treatment necessary
	10	Does not get out of bed; does not play	Moribund
(5)	(0)	Unresponsive; dead	Dead

Please register the 'WHO score at diagnosis' according to the following rules:

- WHO score is available
→ register the WHO score (regardless of the availability of the Lansky/Karnofsky score)
- WHO score is not available but the Lansky/Karnofsky score is
→ register the converted WHO score
- Neither score is available
→ register 'Onbekend' or 'Inconnu'