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CREATING A HEALTHIER HAWAI'I

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EPWORTH SLEEPINESS SCALE (ESS)

The ESS assists in the evaluation of the level of daytime sleepiness. A score of 10 or higher is considered sleepy. Equal to or more than 18 is considered very sleepy. There are many reasons why people are sleepy, not just tired, such as not enough sleep, poor quality sleep, medications or pain that interferes with sleep and so on. This scale refers to your usual way of life in recent times. Even if you have not done some of these things recently try to work out how they would have affected you.

To use this scale, choose the number from the list below that best applies to each of the situations on the scale. Write in the number on the line by the situation and then when all situations are filled in add up the numbers to get the total ESS score.

0 = would *never* doze or sleep

- 1 = *slight* chance of dozing or sleeping
- 2 = *moderate* chance of dozing or sleeping
- 3 = high chance of dozing or sleeping

Situation

Chance of dozing or sleeping

Sitting and reading	
Watching TV	
Sitting inactive in a public place	
Being a passenger in a motor vehicle for an hour or more	
Lying down in the afternoon	
Sitting and talking to someone	
Sitting quietly after lunch (no alcohol)	
Stopped for a few minutes in traffic while driving	
Total score (add the scores up) = ESS score	

Adapted from the Epworth Sleepiness Scale. Johns MW. A new method for measuring daytime sleepiness: The Epworth Sleepiness Scale. SLEEP 1991;14(6):540-545