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CASE STUDY

Patient C.M. is a 38 year old male with a long history of serious depression. He suffered his first depressive episode during his college years, which was so severe that he was forced to withdraw from the university. After this initial bout of depression, C.M. tried countless medications without experiencing consistent or significant benefit. He eventually turned to electroconvulsive therapy, which only offered him partial relief. His depression also resulted in hospitalizations on two occasions.

Upon his initial evaluation, C.M. reported symptoms consistent with Major Depressive Disorder including cognitive impairment, profound sadness, anxiety, weight gain, hypersomnia, fatigue, interpersonal withdrawal, and irritability. His depression made it difficult for him to drive or go to work, and he was receiving no benefit from the 7 medications he was prescribed.

At baseline, i.e. before beginning TMS Therapy, C.M. scored a 61 on the Inventory of Depressive Symptomatology (IDS-SR₃₀), indicating a "very severe" level of depression. After just one session, C.M. reported feeling more alert and less foggy. After his first two weeks of TMS, C.M.'s score dropped to 45, followed by a score of 41 at 4 weeks into treatment. Upon completion of 6 weeks of TMS Therapy, C.M. scored a 25 indicating a "mild" level of depression (See Figure 1).

While the IDS-SR₃₀ provided a quantitative picture of C.M.'s progress, his subjective reports have been far more impressive. Two weeks after his final treatment session, he reported feeling happy for the first time in years. He has returned to work full time and feels as though he has gotten his life back.

Despite some initial reluctance to trying TMS, C.M. now says that his results are far better than he could have ever imagined. His results are not only a testament to the efficacy of TMS, but also a source of hope for individuals facing similar circumstances.

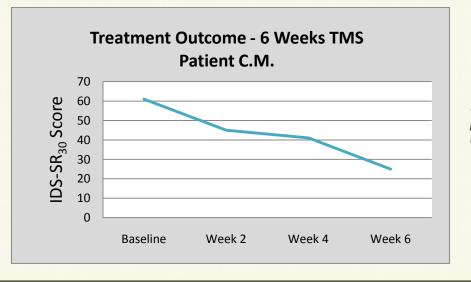


Figure 1. IDS-SR₃₀ scores for patient C.M. showed a steady decline over 6 weeks of TMS Therapy