

Minimal important difference ID'd in voice handicap index-10

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(HealthDay)—A difference of 6 on the Voice Handicap Index-10

(VHI-10) total score may represent a minimal important difference (MID) for patients with voice disorders, according to a study published online Sept. 28 in *JAMA Otolaryngology—Head & Neck Surgery*.

Stephanie Misono, M.D., M.P.H., from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, and colleagues used an anchor-based approach to estimate MID in the VHI-10 total [score](#) in a [cohort study](#). A volunteer sample of adult patients visiting a voice clinic, with a variety of voice disorders, completed the VHI-10 in conjunction with a global rating of change at baseline and two weeks later. An MID was identified using an anchor-based approach.

The researchers found that the mean change in VHI-10 score was 1 for patients reporting no change on the global change score; the mean change was also 1 for those reporting a small change. The mean change in VHI-10 was 6 for those reporting a moderate change in [voice](#) symptoms, while those reporting a large change had a mean change in score of 9. There was a correlation of 0.32 between the global change score and change in VHI-10 score.

"Given the lack of differentiation between small and no change and the modest correlation between the global change score and change in the VHI-10 score, additional studies are needed," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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