Time of onset description (randomized across respondents; preceded each scenario description):

    Current onset: “You have had a sudden onset of a health condition that just developed in the last week. You describe your health as follows:”
    Prior onset: “You developed a health condition six months ago. You describe your health as follows:”
    Unspecified onset: “You describe your health as follows:”

Scenario A (“mild”):
- You need a lot of help to work full time or manage household, or only work part time,
- You are able to eat, wash, etc. and drive car without assistance,
- You lack energy some of the time,
- You receive only limited support from family and/or friends,
- You are sometimes troubled, anxious and depressed.

Scenario B (“moderate”):
- You need a lot of help to work full time or manage household, or only work part time,
- You can travel and perform daily activities only with assistance but cannot perform light tasks around the house,
- You feel very ill or “lousy” most of the time,
- You receive only limited support from family and/or friends,
- You feel frightened and completely confused about things in general.

Scenario C (“severe”):
- You are not able to work in any capacity,
- You are confined to your home or an institution and cannot manage personal care or light tasks at all,
- You feel very ill or “lousy” most of the time,
- You receive almost no support from family and/or friends,
- You feel frightened and completely confused about things in general.