

CAGE Alcohol Abuse Screener

Keywords:

Alcohol Use

Background:

Alcohol use has an indirect effect on the risk for contracting HIV. Individuals under the influence of alcohol may be more likely to engage in HIV risk behaviors. The following instrument was developed to screen for alcohol abuse.

Developer:

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Copyright:

Publisher: American Psychiatric Association

Reliability:

Internal consistency: Cronbach alpha = 0.69 (Hays et al., 1995)

Assessment:

Scale items:

1. Have you ever felt you should **C**ut down on your drinking?
 2. Have people **A**nnoyed you by criticizing your drinking?
 3. Have you ever felt bad or **G**uilty about your drinking?
 4. Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or to get rid of a hangover (**E**ye opener)?
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References:

- Mayfield, D., McLeod, G., Hall, P. (1974). The CAGE questionnaire: Validation of a new alcoholism instrument. American Journal of Psychiatry 131, 1121-1123.
- Hays, R.D., Merz, J.F., Nicholas, R. (1995) Response burden, reliability, and validity of the CAGE, Short MAST, and AUDIT alcohol screening measures. Behavior Res Methods Instruments Computers 27(2):277-280

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