Adolescent Obsessive-Compulsive Drinking Scale (A-OCDS)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The A-OCDS was developed to detect craving and problem drinking in adolescents/young adults. The A-OCDS has been shown to detect obsessive thoughts about alcohol and compulsive drinking behaviors in adolescents/young adults. It is sensitive and specific to identify problematic drinking and craving in adolescents/young adults.

TARGET POPULATION

☐ Adults
☒ Adolescents (14–20 years)

Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?

Adolescents/young adults ages 14 to 20 who abuse or are dependent upon alcohol. The instrument may be used to differentiate problem adolescent drinkers from experimenters or those with alcohol abuse.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Number of items: 14
Number of subscales: 2
Format(s): ☒ Pencil-and-paper self-administered
☐ Interview
☐ Observation
☐ Computer self-administered
☐ Other

Time required for administration: 5 to 10 minutes
Administered by: Self
Training required for administration? ☐ yes ☒ no

SCORING

Time required to score/interpret: 1 minute
Scored by: Simple addition
Scoring key? ☒ yes ☐ no
Computerized scoring or interpretation available? ☒ yes ☐ no
Norms available? ☒ yes ☐ no
Instrument normed on subgroups? ☒ yes ☐ no
Have reliability studies been done? ☒ yes ☐ no
What measure(s) of reliability was used?
☒ Test-retest
☐ Split half
☒ Internal consistency
Have validity studies been done? ☒ yes ☐ no
What measures of validity have been derived?
☒ Content
☐ Criterion (predictive, concurrent, “post-delivery”)
☒ Construct

The A-OCDS may be used to identify a problem drinker and to detect impairment in function associated with drinking. Scores of 1 and 6 on the Interference and Irresistibility subscales, respectively, are indicative of problem drinking. The A-OCDS may be used to monitor the progress of patients in treatment.

The A-OCDS is useful in baseline research assessments to determine the extent of impairment related to drinking. An individual’s progress during the course of treatment or change over time may be measured.

Copyright: ☒ yes ☐ no
Cost: None
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