Alcohol Craving Questionnaire (ACQ-NOW)

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION**
The ACQ-NOW is a 47-item self-administered, multidimensional state measure of acute alcohol craving adapted from the Cocaine Craving Questionnaire of Tiffany et al. As such, it measures four dimensions (subscales) of alcohol craving labeled Emotionality, Purposefulness, Compulsivity, and Expectancy. It takes 5 to 10 minutes to complete for persons with a seventh grade reading level or above. The ACQ-NOW also has been modified into a short form, the ACQ-SF-R, that contains 12 items strongly correlated with the four subscales and total ACQ score. It has moderate to high reliability (alpha) and is sensitive to change.

**TARGET POPULATION**
- Adults
- Adolescents (over 16 years)

*Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?*
- All current drinkers

**ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**
- Number of items: 47
- Number of subscales: 4
- 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
- Comments: Comes with a manual (Singleton et al., 2000) that contains standard instruction for completing the items, practice sheet, ACQ-NOW, ACQ-SF-R, and ACQ HISTO RY, which consists of 26 questions pertaining to demographics, patterns of alcohol use, and other craving-relevant variables.

Samples of the actual instruments are not included in this online version. For printed copies, please contact the source listed on each fact sheet.
**SCORING**

- Time required to score/interpret: Approximately 5 minutes
- Scored by: Clinician or research assistant
- Scoring key? □ yes □ no
- Computerized scoring or interpretation available? □ yes □ no
- Norms available? □ yes □ no
- Instrument normed on subgroups? □ yes □ no

**Comments:** Manual (Singleton et al., 2000) contains background, reliability and validity analyses, scoring keys, and subscale interpretation.

**PSYCHOMETRICS**

- 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, “postdictive”)
  - □ Construct

**CLINICAL UTILITY OF INSTRUMENT**

- It has been shown to correlate with other multidimensional measures and visual analogs used to monitor changes in levels of craving from pretreatment through posttreatment.

**RESEARCH APPLICABILITY**

- A prominent component among users not attempting abstinence is a marked relationship between stated intention to use alcohol and urges and desires to drink. There is also a positive correlation for urges and desires to drink with frequency of daily drinking in the last 30 days and personality traits, including extraversion, openness, and neuroticism.
SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Copyright: □ yes □ no
Cost: None (public domain)

Source: Questionnaires and manual available in hardcopy or as MS Word or text E-mail attachment from:
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SOURCE REFERENCE


SUPPORTING REFERENCES
