

## Alcohol Expectancy Questionnaire–Adolescent Form (AEQ-A)

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The AEQ-A is made up of 100 items similar to those on the adult form. These items were derived in part from the statements comprising the adult AEQ and from interviews with adolescents ranging in age from 12 to 19 years. The AEQ-A incorporates negative effects of alcohol consumption (which the adult version does not) and statements are worded more generally to accommodate those who have had little or no experience with alcohol.

The AEQ-A underwent content and factor analyses to define the domain of adolescent alcohol expectancies. Factor analysis of the AEQ-A revealed seven expectancy factors: (1) global positive changes, (2) changes in social behavior, (3) improved cognitive and motor abilities, (4) sexual enhancement, (5) cognitive and motor impairment, (6) increased arousal, and (7) relaxation and tension reduction. The unit weight scoring system used is comparable to that of the adult version of the AEQ. Although there is significant overlap between the expectancy scales of the adolescent and adult forms of the AEQ, separate scoring systems have been retained in order to more accurately reflect the perceptions and beliefs of each age group.

### TARGET POPULATION

- Adults  
 Adolescents

#### **Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?**

Adolescents and young adults ages 12 to 19 years.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Number of items: *100 (85 scored)*

Number of subscales: *7*

- Format(s):  Pencil-and-paper self-administered  
 Interview  
 Observation  
 Computer self-administered  
 Other

Time required for administration: *10 to 15 minutes*

Administered by: *Self*

Training required for administration?  yes  no

Comments: *Translated versions are available (German, Spanish).*

SCORING Computerized scoring or interpretation available?  yes  no (*Teleform Software package and scanner required*)  
Norms available?  yes  no  
Instrument normed on subgroups?  yes  no

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 The AEQ-A plays an integral part in the explication of personally perceived outcomes from alcohol use, as related to the initiation and maintenance of alcohol use in teenagers; assists in identifying factors involved in the process of transition to or persistence of problem drinking; can guide prevention efforts for addiction risk in adolescents; and may be used to assign clinical resources based on expectancies endorsed.

RESEARCH APPLICABILITY A majority of interactionist theories in the etiology of addiction postulate an expectancy process as core to the development and persistence of substance involvement. For example, the AEQ-A has been found to mediate the influence of risk factors (e.g., family history, parental modeling). The AEQ-A provides a means of quantifying such expectancies.

SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES Copyright:  yes  no  
Cost: *Not applicable*  
Source: *The AEQ-A may be obtained through requests in writing to the authors:*  
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## SOURCE REFERENCE

Christiansen, B.A., Goldman, M.S. & Inn, A. (1982). The development of alcohol-related expectancies in adolescents: Separating pharmacological from social learning influences. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 50*, 336-344.

## SUPPORTING REFERENCES

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