CAGE Questionnaire

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The CAGE is a very brief, relatively nonconfrontational questionnaire for detection of alcoholism usually directed “have you ever” but may be focused to delineate past or present.

TARGET POPULATION
☒ Adults
☒ Adolescents (over 16 years)

Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?
Usually in general medical population being examined in a primary care setting

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES
Number of items: 4
Number of subscales:
Format(s):
☒ Pencil-and-paper self-administered
☒ Interview
☐ Observation
☒ Computer self-administered
☐ Other
Time required for administration: Less than 1 minute
Administered by: Professional or technician
Training required for administration? ☒ yes ☐ no
Comments: Easy to learn, easy to remember, easy to replicate

SCORING
Time required to score/interpret: Instantaneous
Scored by: Tester
Computerized scoring or interpretation available? ☐ yes ☒ no
Norms available? ☒ 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 CAGE is a very useful bedside clinical desk instrument. It has become the favorite of family practice physicians and general internists and also is very popular in nursing.

RESEARCH APPLICABILITY

The CAGE has much less potential for most research uses than for clinical use.

SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Copyright: ☐ yes ☒ no
Cost: Public domain
Source: The CAGE Questionnaire was developed by John Ewing. The exact wording can be found in the source reference below. No permission is necessary unless used in a profit-making endeavor.

SOURCE REFERENCE


SUPPORTING REFERENCES