

## Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Inventory (CASI)

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The CASI is a comprehensive, semi-structured, clinical assessment and outcomes interview. It is comprised of 10 independent modules, each incorporating objective, focused, and concrete questions. Modules include health, family, stressful life events, legal status, sexual behavior, AOD use, mental health functioning, peer relationships, education, and use of free time. Questions are formatted to identify whether certain behaviors have ever occurred regularly, how old the adolescent was when they first occurred regularly, and whether they occurred regularly during the past year (past month and other 11 months). Each module assesses whether the adolescent acknowledges the presence of problems and obtains his/her rating of discomfort. The CASI also includes questions designed to assess the strength-base of the youth.

### TARGET POPULATION

- Adults  
 Adolescents (over 16 years)

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

Adolescents suspected of AOD involvement and related problems

### ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Number of items: *Depends*

Number of subscales: *10 modules*

Format(s):  Pencil-and-paper self-administered

Interview

Observation

Computer self-administered

Other (describe) Computer administered by interviewer

Time required for administration: *45 to 90 minutes*

Administered by: *Professional*

Training required for administration?  yes  no

Comments: *2-day training*

SCORING

Time required to score/interpret: *15 minutes*

Scored by: *Administrator*

Scoring key?  yes  no

Computerized scoring or interpretation available?  yes  no

Norms available?  yes  no

Instrument normed on subgroups?  yes  no

Which groups? *By age, gender, and ethnicity*

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

Assess substance use, substance abuse and dependence symptoms, and related problems. Assists with referral and treatment decisions.

RESEARCH APPLICABILITY

Problem identification and for monitoring treatment outcome.

SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Copyright:  yes  no

Cost: *Pencil-and-paper version is free of charge, but the 2-day training session is \$2,000; contact System Measures for the cost of the computer program.*

Source: *System Measures, Inc.*

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SOURCE REFERENCE

Meyers, K., McLellan, A.T., Jaeger, J.L. & Pettinati, H.M. (1995). The development of the Comprehensive Addiction Severity Index for Adolescents (CASI-A): An interview for assessing the multiple problems of adolescents. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*, 12, 181-193.

SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Meyers, K., Hagan, T.A., Zanis, D., Webb, A., Frantz, J., Ring-Kurtz, S., Rutherford, M. & McLellan, A.T. (1999). Critical issues in adolescent substance abuse assessment. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*.

Riggs, P.D., Mikulich, S. K., Whitmore, E.A. & Crowley, T.J. (1999). Relationship of ADHD, depression, and non-tobacco substance use disorders to nicotine dependence in substance-dependent delinquents. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 54, 195-205.