# Diagnostic Interview Schedule (DIS-IV) Alcohol Module

## Brief Description
The DIS-IV Alcohol Module for the January 2000 version contains 28 structured questions which serve the DSM-IV diagnostic criteria for alcohol abuse and dependence. In addition to determining whether criteria for diagnosis are met, information is gained about course, onset, and recency of positive symptoms.

## Target Population
- ✗ Adults
- □ Adolescents

**Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?**
Respondents 18 years of age and older with various educational and cultural backgrounds from both general and clinical populations (excluding severe mental retardation or severe organic brain syndrome). The instrument was validated in a clinical sample.

## Administrative Issues
- Number of items: 28
- Number of subscales: 28
- Format(s):
  - □ Pencil-and-paper self-administered
  - ✗ Interview (paper/pen or computerized)
  - □ Observation
  - □ Computer self-administered
  - □ Other
- Time required for administration: 10 to 20 minutes
- Administered by: Anyone
- Training required for administration? ✗ yes □ no

**Comments:** Although no clinical background is required to administer the module, a half day of instruction and practice is highly recommended. It is essential that interviewers be able to read smoothly, exercise good clerical skills, and be good listeners.

## Scoring
- Time required to score/interpret: Virtually immediate
- Scored by: Computer or by hand (although hand scoring is not recommended)
- Computerized scoring or interpretation 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

**CLINICAL UTILITY OF INSTRUMENT**

The DIS-IV Alcohol Module is primarily intended for epidemiological studies but can also be used for other clinical and research purposes. As a diagnostic instrument, the module has no direct role in enhancing treatment.

**RESEARCH APPLICABILITY**

Use of the instrument may result in improvements in the way diagnosis is made and lead to refinements in diagnostic criteria. Because the instrument standardizes data collection it allows for comparisons between different studies.

**SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES**

Copyright:  
- yes  
- no

Cost: Contact the source.

Source:
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REFERENCES


