Ethanol Dependence Syndrome (EDS) Scale

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The EDS scale consists of 16 items that can be organized according to five content areas, each representing one of five major alcohol dependence syndrome elements: salience of drinking, impaired control over drinking, tolerance, withdrawal, withdrawal relief.

TARGET POPULATION
- Adults
- Adolescents (over 16 years)

Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?
Alcoholics, college students, and general population of drinkers

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES
Number of items: 16
Number of subscales: 5
Format(s): Pencil-and-paper self-administered
- Interview
- Observation
- Computer self-administered
- Other
Time required for administration: 2 minutes
Administered by: Patient/respondent
Training required for administration? No

SCORING
Time required to score/interpret: 1 minute
Scored by: Health professional, research assistant, clerical worker
Scoring key? No
Computerized scoring or interpretation available? No
Norms available? No
Instrument normed on subgroups? 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 EDS scale provides a reliable measure of dependence severity, but in the absence of published norms there is no basis for classifying respondents along an absolute continuum ranging from low to high. The scale can be used, however, to monitor dependence symptoms over time in the same patient.

RESEARCH APPLICABILITY

The value of an alcohol dependence measure lies in its ability to evaluate change in dependence severity over time as a result of treatment. Such a measure also permits the testing of hypotheses derived from dependence theory, which predict that the greater the severity of dependence, the more rapid and severe the reinstatement of dependence following relapse to drinking.

SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Copyright: ☒ yes ☐ no
Cost: None
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SOURCE REFERENCE

SUPPORTING REFERENCES


FOREIGN LANGUAGE VERSIONS AND HOW TO OBTAIN

French  May be obtained by writing to the author.

KEY REFERENCE FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE VERSIONS