Personal Experience Screening Questionnaire (PESQ)

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION**

The PESQ provides a quick, cost-effective way to screen 12- to 18-year-olds for substance abuse. In just 10 minutes, this brief self-report questionnaire identifies teenagers who should be referred for a complete chemical dependency evaluation.

**TARGET POPULATION**

- □ Adults
- ◐ Adolescents

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

General adolescent populations

**ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**

- Number of items: 40
- Number of subscales: 3 (Problem Severity, Psychosocial Items, and Drug Use History)
- Format(s): ◐ Pencil-and-paper self-administered
  - □ Interview
  - □ Observation
  - □ Computer self-administered
  - □ Other
- Time required for administration: 10 minutes
- Administered by: Self
- Training required for administration? □ yes ◐ no

**SCORING**

- Time required to score/interpret: 5 minutes
- Scored by: Automatically scored as administered, using AutoScore Test
- Computerized scoring or interpretation available? □ yes ◐ no
- Norms available? ◐ yes □ no
- Instrument normed on subgroups? ◐ yes □ no
- Which groups? Treatment and community groups (broken down by gender and age groups)

---

**Samples of the actual instruments are not included in this online version. For printed copies, please contact the source listed on each fact sheet.**

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

This brief screener helps service providers make appropriate referrals. It is especially useful in schools, juvenile detention facilities, medical clinics, and other settings where routine screening rather than in-depth assessment is the goal.

RESEARCH APPLICABILITY

The PESQ is useful in screening subjects, as an initial step in identifying those with chemical dependency problems.

SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Copyright: □ yes □ no
Cost: $70.00 per kit (25 administrations)
Source: Ken Winters, Ph.D.
University of Minnesota
Department of Psychiatry
420 Delaware Street SE
P.O. Box 393
Minneapolis, MN 55455

SOURCE REFERENCES


SUPPORTING REFERENCES
