Rapid Alcohol Problems Screen (RAPS4)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The RAPS4 is a four-item instrument that provides high sensitivity and specificity across gender and ethnic groups (White, Black, Hispanic) for alcohol dependence during the last year in clinical populations. A positive response to any one of the items signifies positive for alcohol dependence based on ICD-10 and/or DSM-IV criteria for the 12 months.

TARGET POPULATION
☒ Adults
☐ Adolescents (over 16 years)

Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?
Patients in the ER and primary care settings

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: 1 minute
Administered by: Clinical staff
Training required for administration? ☒ yes ☐ no

SCORING
Time required to score/interpret: Immediate—positive response on any one of the four items is positive for alcohol dependence
Scored by: Clinical staff
Scoring key? ☒ yes ☐ no
Computerized scoring or interpretation available? ☒ yes ☐ no
Norms available? ☒ yes ☐ no
Instrument normed on subgroups? ☒ 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
For use with patients in determining alcohol dependence in last year. There is no weighting, adding, or scoring of responses. A positive response on any one item qualifies as positive. The first item (feeling guilt or remorse) identifies over 80 percent of those meeting criteria for alcohol dependence.

RESEARCH APPLICABILITY
Same as above.

SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES
Copyright: □ yes □ no
Cost: None
Source: Cheryl Cherpitel, Ph.D.
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SOURCE REFERENCE

SUPPORTING REFERENCE
FOREIGN LANGUAGE VERSIONS AND HOW TO OBTAIN

Spanish Contact author.

KEY REFERENCES FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE VERSIONS
