Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The SASSI is a brief self-report, easily administered psychological screening measure that is available in separate versions for adults and adolescents. The Adult SASSI-3 helps identify individuals who have a high probability of having a substance dependence disorder with an overall empirically tested accuracy of 93 percent. The Adolescent SASSI-A2 is designed to identify individuals who have a high probability of having a substance use disorder, including both substance abuse and substance dependence, with its decision rules yielding an overall accuracy of 94 percent. The SASSI includes both face valid and subtle items that have no apparent relationship to substance use. The subtle items are included to identify some individuals with alcohol and other drug problems who are unwilling or unable to acknowledge substance misuse or symptoms associated with it. Support materials for the SASSI include User's Guides containing easy-to-understand instructions for administering, scoring, interpretation, and Manuals providing comprehensive information on development, reliability, and validity.

TARGET POPULATION
- Adults
- Adolescents (12 to 18 years)

Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?
Inpatient and outpatient settings, including criminal justice, employee assistance, educational, mental health, medical, and vocational

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES
Number of items: Adult 93; Adolescent 100
Number of subscales: Adult 10; Adolescent 12
Format(s):  ✗ Pencil-and-paper self-administered
          □ Interview
          □ Observation
          ✗ Computer self-administered and optical scanning version
          ✗ Other (describe) Web-based administration

Time required for administration: 10 to 15 minutes
Administered by: Support staff
Training required for administration? ☐ yes ✗ no
### SCORING
- **Time required to score/interpret:** 5 to 10 minutes
- **Scored by:** Administrator
- **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
  - **What measures of validity have been derived?**
    - ☐ Content
    - ☑ Criterion (predictive, concurrent, “postdictive”)
    - ☐ Construct

### CLINICAL UTILITY OF INSTRUMENT
- **Interpretations of the SASSI profiles suggest possibilities that the clinician may find useful in understanding clients and providing effective feedback.**
  - Examples of clinical inferences that may be drawn on the basis of certain scale scores include indication of defensive responding, clients’ level of insight and awareness of the effects of their substance misuse, evidence of emotional pain, and relative risk of involvement with the legal/judicial system. In combination with other available assessment information, the clinical inferences suggested by examining SASSI profiles provide ideas for further evaluation and treatment considerations.
  - **Free clinical consultation and technical support.**

### RESEARCH APPLICABILITY
- **The SASSI’s brevity, ease of administration and scoring, and availability of computer format for data storage and analysis make the instrument highly useful for research applications.**

### SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES
- **Copyright:** ☑ yes ☐ no
- **Cost:** Call for product catalog or visit the SASSI Web site.
- **Source:** The SASSI Institute
  - **Phone:** 800-726-0526
  - **Web site:** www.sassi.com
SOURCE REFERENCE

SUPPORTING REFERENCES