

Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment (CIWA-AD)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION	<p>The CIWA-AD based on DSM-III-R is an 8-item scale for clinical quantification of the severity of the alcohol withdrawal syndrome. Its origins stem from the 15-item CIWA-A (<i>Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology</i> 1:382-387, 1981) and the more recent revised 10-item CIWA-Ar (<i>British Journal of Addictions</i>, 84:1353-1357, 1989). It is a reliable, brief, uncomplicated, and clinically useful scale that can also be used to monitor response to treatment. This scale offers an increase in efficiency over the original CIWA-A scale, while retaining clinical usefulness, validity, and reliability. It can be incorporated into the usual clinical care of patients undergoing alcohol withdrawal and into clinical drug trials of alcohol withdrawal.</p>
TARGET POPULATION	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adults <input type="checkbox"/> Adolescents</p>
ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES	<p>Number of items: 8 Format(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Pencil-and-paper self-administered <input type="checkbox"/> Interview <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation <input type="checkbox"/> Computer self-administered <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Time required for administration: 2 minutes Administered by: Nurses, doctors, research associates/detoxification unit workers Training required for administration? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no</p>
SCORING	<p>Time required to score/interpret: 4 to 5 minutes Scored by: Administrator Computerized scoring or interpretation available? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no Norms available? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no Instrument normed on subgroups? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no</p>
PSYCHOMETRICS	<p>Have reliability studies been done? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Have validity studies been done? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no</p>

CLINICAL UTILITY OF INSTRUMENT	The CIWA-AD is useful for clinical quantification of the severity of the alcohol withdrawal syndrome. Use of the scale can be incorporated into the usual care of patients undergoing alcohol withdrawal. The scale improves staff awareness of the elements of the clinical syndrome and helps structure clinical treatment decisions.
RESEARCH APPLICABILITY	The scale identifies the minimal clinical features and converts the DSM-III-R items into scores for tracking severity over time and thus is essential to clinical research. The scale is useful as a research tool in quantitating the efficacy of drugs used in the treatment of alcohol withdrawal.
SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES	Copyright: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Cost: <i>Unknown</i> Source: E.M. Sellers Ventana Clinical Research Corporation 76 Grenville Street, Suite 947 Toronto, Ontario M5S 1B2, Canada
SOURCE REFERENCE	Sullivan, J.T., Sykora, K., Schneiderman, J., Naranjo, C.A. & Sellers, E.M. (1989). Assessment of alcohol withdrawal: The revised Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment for Alcohol scale (CIWA-AR). <i>British Journal of Addiction</i> , 84, 1353-1357.
SUPPORTING REFERENCES	Blackwood, C.L. (2000). Measurement of alcohol withdrawal. <i>American Family Physician</i> , 62(5), 954-957. Reoux, J.P. & Miller, K. (2000). Routine hospital alcohol detoxification practice compared to symptom triggered management with an objective withdrawal scale (CIWA-Ar). <i>American Journal on Addiction</i> , 9(2), 135-144. Foy, A., Kay, J. & Taylor, A. (1997). Course of alcohol withdrawal in a general hospital. <i>Quarterly Journal of Medicine</i> , 90(4), 253-261. Stuppaeck, C.H., Barnas, C., Falk, M., Guenther, V., Hummer, M., et. al. (1994). Assessment of the alcohol withdrawal syndrome: Validity and reliability for the translated and modified Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment for Alcohol scale (CIWA-A). <i>Addiction</i> , 89(10), 1287-1292. Sellers, E.M., Sullivan, J.T., Somer, G. & Sykora, K. (1992). Characterization of DSM-III-R criteria for uncomplicated alcohol withdrawal: Proposal for a diagnostic inventory and revised withdrawal scale. In: Naranjo, C.A. & Sellers, E.M. (Eds.), <i>Novel Pharmacological Interventions for Alcoholism</i> (pp. 369-371). New York: Springer-Verlag.