

Leeds Dependence Questionnaire (LDQ)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The LDQ measures substance dependence. Dependence has been formulated into a purely psychological understanding so that pathophysiological elements of the dependence syndrome, namely tolerance and withdrawal, are translated into psychological terms and become universal. The instrument is capable of measuring change in dependence and can therefore be used to follow treatment progress and evaluate treatment outcomes. The LDQ measures dependence in abstinent patients. The LDQ has been validated for use with alcohol and heroin users and smokers.

TARGET POPULATION

- Adults
- Adolescents (over 16 years)

Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?

The scale has generally been used with adult substance users. The instrument is sensitive to mild and moderate levels of dependence and so can be helpful in determining treatment goals. The LDQ has been used with male and female patients and patients with mental illness problems who have dual diagnoses.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Number of items: *10*

Number of subscales: *0*

- Format(s):
- Pencil-and-paper self-administered
 - Interview (structured)
 - Observation
 - Computer self-administered
 - Other

Time required for administration: *2 to 5 minutes*

Administered by: *Self or interviewer*

Training required for administration? yes no

SCORING	Time required to score/interpret: $\frac{1}{2}$ minute Scored by: <i>Administrator</i> Scoring key? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no Computerized scoring or interpretation available? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no Norms available? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no (<i>in clinical population</i>) Instrument normed on subgroups? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
PSYCHOMETRICS	Have reliability studies been done? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no What measure(s) of reliability was used? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test-retest <input type="checkbox"/> Split half <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal consistency Have validity studies been done? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no What measures of validity have been derived? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Content <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Criterion (predictive, concurrent, "postdictive") <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construct
CLINICAL UTILITY OF INSTRUMENT	A diagnostic measure of the severity of dependence, an important measure in determining treatment goals, and a treatment outcome measure that works with abstinent patients
RESEARCH APPLICABILITY	Has a capacity to measure change in dependence over a period of a few weeks. Can be used to compare different subject groups on the variable severity of dependence. Can be used as a proxy measure of use (in nonabstinent groups).
SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES	Copyright: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no Cost: <i>None</i> Source: Leeds Addiction Unit Web site: <i>www.lau.org.uk</i> <i>or</i> 19 Springfield Mount Leeds, LS2 9NG West Yorkshire United Kingdom

SOURCE REFERENCE

Raistrick, D.S., Bradshaw, J., Tober, G., Weiner, J., Allison, J. & Healey, C. (1994). Development of the Leeds Dependence Questionnaire. *Addiction*, 89, 563-572.

SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Ford, P. (2003). Evaluation of the Dartmouth Assessment of Lifestyle Inventory and the Leeds Dependence Questionnaire for use among detained psychiatric inpatients, *Addiction*, 98(1), 111-118.

Heather, N., Raistrick, D., Tober, G., Godfrey, C. & Parrott, S. (2001). Leeds Dependence Questionnaire: New data from a large sample of clinic attenders. *Addiction Research*, 9, 253-269.

Tober, G.W. (2000). *The Nature and Measurement of Change in Substance Dependence*. (University of Leeds, unpublished PhD thesis).

Tober, G., Brearley, R., Kenyon, R., Raistrick, D. & Morley, S. (2000). Measuring outcomes in a health service addiction clinic. *Addiction Research*, 8(2), 169-182.

The LDQ is also being used in the UK Alcohol Treatment Trial (results early 2003).

UKATT Research Team (2001). United Kingdom Alcohol Treatment Trial (UKATT): Hypotheses, design and methods. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, 36, 11-21.