

MacAndrew Alcoholism Scale (Mac)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Mac is designed to screen for alcoholism “covert content items,” i.e., those that do not directly mention drinking. The scale is embedded in the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, but it can also be administered separately.

TARGET POPULATION

- Adults
 Adolescents

Groups for which this instrument might be especially helpful?

Alcoholics, who are likely to deny problems with drinking if asked directly

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Number of items: 49

Number of subscales:

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

Time required for administration: *10 minutes*

Administered by: *Nonprofessional, clerical*

Training required for administration? yes no

SCORING

Time required to score/interpret: *2 to 3 minutes*

Scored by: *Nonprofessional/clerical*

Computerized scoring or interpretation available? yes no

Norms available? yes no

Instrument normed on subgroups? yes no

Which groups? *Women, alcoholics with collateral drug problems*

PSYCHOMETRICS	<p>Have reliability studies been done? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no</p> <p>What measure(s) of reliability was used?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test-retest</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Split half</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal consistency</p> <p>Have validity studies been done? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no</p> <p>What measures of validity have been derived?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Content</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Criterion (predictive, concurrent, "postdictive")</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construct</p>
CLINICAL UTILITY OF INSTRUMENT	<p>The Mac appears to screen for alcohol problems by assessing personality and attitudinal characteristics that commonly distinguish individuals with such problems from those without.</p>
RESEARCH APPLICABILITY	<p>Research on personality characteristics of alcoholics</p>
SOURCE, COST AND COPYRIGHT ISSUES	<p>Copyright: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no</p> <p>Cost: \$1.00 per test</p> <p>Source: National Computer Systems, Inc. Assessments Division P.O. Box 1416 Minneapolis, MN 55440</p>
SOURCE REFERENCE	<p>MacAndrew, C. (1965). The differentiation of male alcoholic outpatients from non-alcoholic psychiatric outpatients by means of the MMPI. <i>Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol</i>, 26, 238-246.</p>
SUPPORTING REFERENCES	<p>Kamierczak, D.A., Smyth, N.H.J. & Wodarski, J.S. (1999). Screenings and assessment instruments for alcohol and other drugs. <i>Family Therapy</i>, 26(2), 103-119.</p> <p>Litt, M.D., Babor, T.F., DelBoca, F.K., Kadden, R.M. & Cooney, N.L. (1992). Types of alcoholics: II. Application of an empirically derived typology to treatment matching. <i>Archives of General Psychiatry</i>, 49(8), 609-614.</p> <p>Allen, J.P. (1991). Personality correlates of the MacAndrew Alcoholism Scale: A review of the literature. <i>Psychology of Addictive Behaviors</i>, 5(2), 59-65.</p> <p>Gottesman, I.I. & Prescott, C.A. (1989). Abuses of the MacAndrew MMPI Alcoholism Scale: A critical review. <i>Clinical Psychology Review</i>, 9, 223-242.</p> <p>Preng, K.W. & Clopton, J.R. (1986). The MacAndrew Scale: Clinical application and theoretical issues. <i>Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology</i>, 47, 1090-1095.</p>