

Five-shot Screening Tool

Some people feel the AUDIT tool is too long for use in primary care. This leads to people using the shorter CAGE tool but CAGE is not good for detecting hazardous drinking. To try and overcome this problem Seppa et al designed the 'Five-shot' questionnaire using two items from AUDIT and three items from CAGE. At a cut off score of 2.5 or greater the 'Five Shot' tool was found to have high sensitivity of 96-100% and specificity of 76%. This provides an accuracy rating of 78%. Anyone that is incorrectly identified as misusing alcohol can easily be detected by further interview with no harm to the patient.

Five-shot Questionnaire

1. How often do you have a drink containing alcohol?
(0.0) Never
(0.5) Monthly or less
(1.0) Two to four times a month
(1.5) Two to three times a week
(2.0) Four or more times a week

2. How many drinks containing alcohol do you have on a typical day when you are drinking?
(0.0) 1 or 2
(0.5) 3 or 4
(1.0) 5 or 6
(1.5) 7 to 9
(2.0) 10 or more

3. Have people annoyed you by criticising your drinking?
(0.0) No
(1.0) Yes

4. Have you ever felt bad or guilty about your drinking?
(0.0) No
(1.0) Yes

5. Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or get rid of a hang-over?
(0.0) No
(1.0) Yes

Scoring

Score of 2.5 or greater indicates possible alcohol misuse and the need for further investigation

Maximum Score = 7. (Seppa et al, 1998).