

The Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT AUDIT: The Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) incorporates questions about the quantity and frequency of alcohol use in adults. AUDIT compares favorably with other instruments in detecting risky drinking. Developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) for use in primary care settings to identify persons whose alcohol consumption has become hazardous or harmful.

INDICATIONS FOR USE: ADULT POPULATIONS: Developed for use in primary care settings to identify persons whose alcohol consumption has become hazardous or harmful. Has proven useful among medical, surgical, and psychiatric inpatients; in Emergency Rooms; in DWI offenders; criminals in court, jail and prison; workers encountered in Employee Assistance Programs and industrial settings.
AUDIT is relatively free of gender and cultural bias.

TIME TO ADMINISTER: 2 MINUTES

UTILITY OF USE: Linked to a decision process that included brief intervention with heavy drinkers, or referral to specialized treatment for patients who show evidence of more serious alcohol involvement.

SCORING AUDIT

Scores for questions 1 through 8 range from 0 to 4:

The first response for each question (eg never) **score 0**

The second (eg less than monthly) **score 1**

The third (eg monthly) **score 2**

The fourth (eg weekly) **score 3**

Last response (eg. daily or almost daily) **score 4**

Questions 9 and 10: (have three responses): **score 0 , 2 , and 4**

TOTAL SCORE INTERPRETATION:

A score of **8 or more** is associated with harmful or hazardous drinking.

A score of **13 or more** in women, and **15 or more** in men, is likely to indicate alcohol dependence.

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SOURCE REFERENCES:

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Volk, R.J., Steinbauer, J.R., Cantor, S.B. & Holzer, C.E. (1997). The Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) as a screen for at-risk drinking in primary care patients of different racial/ethnic backgrounds. *Addiction*, 92(2), 197-206.