



ASSIST Screening Tool for Opioid Misuse

INTRODUCTION:

This ASSIST Screening Tool has been adapted from the Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST) developed by the ©World Health Organization (WHO). http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44320/9789241599382_eng.pdf;jsessionid=180AF0696A6D4E28279358908B80B4F3?sequence=1

Below are questions about your or your loved one's experience with opioids across one's lifetime and in the past 3 months. Opioids can be taken in pill form, under the tongue, injected (either in the muscles or veins as is often the case with Heroin), smoked or snorted. Do not record opioid use that has been prescribed by a doctor. However, if opioids have been taken for reasons other than prescription or taken more frequently or at higher doses than prescribed, respond accordingly. **For this screening tool, opioids can be either: pain medication such as hydrocodone (Vicodin), Oxycodone (Oxycontin), Percocet, Oxymorphone (Opana), Codeine, Heroin, Morphine, Methadone, Fentanyl, Buprenorphine (Suboxone), Pethidine (Meperidine), Dextropropoxyphene (Darvon), etc.**

The screening tool page can be printed and filled out. Scores are then added up and a risk level is determined. The risk level that is indicated by one's score should be placed in context. Opioid related problems are multifaceted and there are many factors which modify the risk of health consequences of opioid use including family history, coexisting psychiatric problems, age, gender, socioeconomic status, etc. Thus, regardless of the level of risk indicated by the completion of this screening tool, persons who are concerned about their opioid use or health related problems should seek an evaluation. It must be emphasized that the ASSIST Screening Tool is not intended to provide a diagnosis of opioid use disorder, nor is a substitute for a complete evaluation by a health care provider. **It is recommended that persons either bring the completed ASSIST Screening Tool for Opioids to a health care provider or contact SAMSHA Helpline for consultation to maximize the screening tool's utility.**



<i>Screening for Individuals/Loved Ones</i>	Score for yourself	Score for a loved one
<p>Question 1</p> <p>In your/your loved one's life, have you/your loved one <u>ever used opioids</u>? (Non-medical use only) Score: Yes = 3 No = 0</p>		
<p>Question 2</p> <p>In the <u>past three months</u>, how often have you/your loved one used opioids? Score: Never = 0 Once or Twice = 2 Monthly = 3 Weekly = 4 Daily or Almost Daily = 6</p> <p>If "Never" to Question 2, skip to Question 6. If Opioids in Question 2 were used in the previous 3 months, continue with Questions 3, 4, & 5.</p>		
<p>Question 3</p> <p>During the <u>past three months</u>, how often have you/your loved one had a strong desire or urge to use opioids? Score: Never = 0 Once or Twice = 3 Monthly = 4 Weekly = 5 Daily or Almost Daily = 6</p>		
<p>Question 4</p> <p>During the <u>past three months</u>, how often has your/your loved one's use of opioids led to health, social, legal or financial problems? Score: Never = 0 Once or Twice = 4 Monthly = 5 Weekly = 6 Daily or Almost Daily = 7</p>		
<p>Question 5</p> <p>During the <u>past three months</u>, how often have you/your loved one failed to do what was normally expected of you/them because of opioids? Score: Never = 0 Once or Twice = 5 Monthly = 6 Weekly = 7 Daily or Almost Daily = 8</p>		
<p>Question 6</p> <p>Has a friend or relative or anyone else <u>ever</u> expressed concern about your/your loved one's use of opioids? Score: No never = 0 Yes- In the past 3 months = 6 Yes- But not in the past 3 months = 3</p>		
<p>Question 7</p> <p>Have you/your loved one <u>ever</u> tried and failed to control, cut down or stop using opioids? Score: No never = 0 Yes- in the past 3 months = 6 Yes- but not in the past 3 months = 3</p>		
<p>Question 8</p> <p>Have you/your loved one <u>ever</u> used any opioid by self injection? Score: No never = 0 Yes- in the past 3 months = 2 Yes- but not in the past 3 months = 1</p>		
TOTAL:		



SCORING THE ASSIST

Add up the score for each question to arrive at a total sum which will identify a risk level.

LOW= 0-3

You are at low risk of health and other problems from your current pattern of use.

MODERATE= 4-26

You are at risk of health and other problems from your current pattern of use. Continuing to use opioids in the way they are currently being used indicates a likelihood of future health and other problems including the possibility of dependence. Risk is increased for those with a past history of substance use related problems and dependence.

HIGH= 27 and above

You are at high risk of experiencing severe problems (health, social, financial, legal, relationship) as a result of your current pattern of use and are likely to be dependent. Moreover, persons who have injected drugs in the last 3 months, more than an average of 4 times per month are also likely to be at high risk.

For scores in the moderate and high-risk level, an evaluation and/or follow-up with a physician is strongly recommended. Click on the SAMSHA Helpline to discuss with a specialist a program specific to your needs in your area.

For scores in the low risk level range, an evaluation is still recommended if there is concern about opioid misuse. Click on the SAMSHA Helpline.