TCU A-RSKForm (Adult-Background Risk)

Item Scoring Guide

The A-RSKForm collects brief biographic and background information from adult admissions to treatment. It includes socio-demographic items (gender, age, race-ethnicity, education, and marital status) as well as legal, medical, and health status during the previous 6 months. In that respect, it serves as the first part of a typical “treatment intake” assessment (see Joe, Simpson, Greener, & Rowan-Szal, 2004) and provides key linkage indicators for other intake and during-treatment progress assessments using TCU Short Forms or similar instruments. Behavioral status questions based on the past 6 months (i.e., Q9-20) also provide the option of calculating a general Adult Background Risk Index for use in classifying new clients according to problem severity and risk levels (see Knight, Flynn, & Simpson, 2008).

Scoring Instructions for A-RSKForm (range=10-50; higher scores more negative)

1. Assign item response scores for Q9 and 12-20 as “0” or “1,” as follows.
   a. If Q9 is answered more than 1 month (i.e., 1-3, 4-5, or All 6), assign a score of “1” (otherwise, “0”).
   b. For Q12-20 with responses of “yes,” assign a score of “1” (otherwise, “0”).
2. Sum scores for Q9 and Q12-20, yielding a value of 0-10.
   a. If “0” or “1,” however, change the score to “2,” yielding a revised value of 2-10.
3. Divide the sum score by 2 and then multiply by 10, yielding a Background Risk Index value of 10-50.
   (Note. This score should not be calculated if half or more of the responses are missing)

Sources:


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