

# TCU Drug Screen 5

## Scoring & Interpretation Guide

**Scoring Instructions.** The TCU Drug Screen 5 is scored to produce a single total score which can range from 0 to 11. To compute the total TCU Drug Screen 5 score:

1. Assign 1 point to each “yes” response to items 1 through 9.
2. For items 10 and 11,
  - a. assign 1 point if respondent answers “yes” to either 10a or 10b;
  - b. assign 1 point if respondent answers “yes” to either 11a or 11b.
3. Sum 1-point “yes” responses for items 1 through 11, yielding a total score ranging between 0 and 11.
4. Note that items 12 through 17 are not included as part of the total TCUDS V score; they provide additional information that may be useful in guiding treatment decisions.

**Interpreting Scores.** Interpretation of the TCU Drug Screen 5 score corresponds with the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)* criteria, and is based on a single disorder measured on the following continuum from mild to severe:

Mild disorder:       Score of 2-3 points (presence of 2-3 symptoms)  
Moderate disorder:   Score of 4-5 points (presence of 4-5 symptoms)  
Severe disorder:     Score of 6 or more points (presence of 6 or more symptoms)

The TCU Drug Screen 5 may be used for personal, educational, research, and/or information purposes. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce and distribute copies of the form for nonprofit educational and nonprofit library purposes, provided that copies are distributed at or below costs and that credit for author, source, and copyright are included on each copy. No material may be copied, downloaded, stored in a retrieval system, or redistributed for any commercial purpose without the express written permission of Texas Christian University. For more information on the TCU Drug Screen 5, please contact:

Kevin Knight, Ph.D.  
Institute of Behavioral Research  
Texas Christian University  
TCU Box 298740  
Fort Worth, TX 76129  
(817) 257-7226  
(817) 257-7290 FAX  
Email: [ibr@tcu.edu](mailto:ibr@tcu.edu)  
Web site: [www.ibr.tcu.edu](http://www.ibr.tcu.edu)

**Note:** Data currently are being collected to establish the psychometric properties of the TCU Drug Screen 5.