

CAGE Substance Abuse Screening Tool

Directions: Ask your patients these four questions and use the scoring method described below to determine if substance abuse exists and needs to be addressed.

CAGE Questions

1. Have you ever felt you should cut down on your drinking?
 2. Have people annoyed you by criticizing your drinking?
 3. Have you ever felt bad or guilty about your drinking?
 4. Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or to get rid of a hangover (eye-opener)?
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CAGE Questions Adapted to Include Drug Use (CAGE-AID)

1. Have you ever felt you ought to cut down on your drinking or drug use?
2. Have people annoyed you by criticizing your drinking or drug use?
3. Have you felt bad or guilty about your drinking or drug use?
4. Have you ever had a drink or used drugs first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or to get rid of a hangover (eye-opener)?

Two or more affirmative responses suggest that the client is a problem drinker.