



THE
CHARTIS
GROUP

Integrated Care Conference

Screening Tools

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June 16, 2023

Learning Objective

Understand the need for screening for SUD

Identify best practices for the administration of screening tools

Preamble

Ignorance is Bliss

What you don't know can't hurt

The Truth Hurts but Secrets Kill!



Screening I

- Screening for SUD - is the application of a simple, quick and easy to apply test to determine if a person has a substance use problem.

Screening Instruments should be

- portable
- cost effective
- sensitive and specific
- easy to apply with minimal training
- included in routine questions asked of all persons who seek care in a medical setting

Screening II

- The goal of substance abuse screening is to identify individuals *who have or are at risk* for developing alcohol- or drug-related problems
- identifies patients who need further assessment to diagnose their substance use disorders and develop plans to treat them
- Consensus Panel that developed the Treatment Improvement Panel (TIP) recommends that
 - primary care clinicians should periodically and routinely screen *all patients* for substance use disorders

WHY?

- Screening some patients and not others leads to cultural, racial, gender, and age biases in Tx
- Visual examination alone cannot detect intoxication or subtle signs of alcohol- and drug-affected behavior

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK64093/>; <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK64820/>

Screening III

- Evidence shows that asking questions about alcohol or other drugs prepares patients to disclose information and significantly increases intention to discuss substance abuse problems with their health care provider in the future
- Studies have found that screening for alcohol-related disorders or for illicit drugs is more acceptable to patients if it is part of a comprehensive health-risk evaluation that covers topics like exercise, diet, weight control, and medication use (Allen et al., 1995) (Fleming and Barry, 1991)

However,

- Screening instruments currently available do not adequately address cultural, gender, and age issues - No instrument has been shown to be consistently culturally sensitive with all ethnic populations (Cherpitel and Clark, 1995)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK64820/>

MAT in ACT Screening Tools

- AUDIT – 5mins
- DAST – 5mins
- The Fagerström Test for Nicotine Dependence – 3mins

AUDIT

- The Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) is a 10-item screening tool developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) to assess alcohol consumption, drinking behaviors, and alcohol-related problems.
- Both a clinician-administered version and a self-report version of the AUDIT are provided.
- A score of 8 or more is considered to indicate hazardous or harmful alcohol use.
- The AUDIT has been validated across genders and in a wide range of racial/ethnic groups and is well suited for use in primary care settings

<https://nida.nih.gov/sites/default/files/files/AUDIT.pdf>

DAST

- The Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-10) is a 10-item brief screening tool that can be administered by a clinician or self-administered.
- Each question requires a yes or no response, and the tool can be completed in less than 8 minutes (approx. 5mins).
- This tool assesses drug use, not including alcohol or tobacco use, in the past 12 months.
- A score of 3 and above indicates problems related to drug use

<https://gwep.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/DAST-10-drug-abuse-screening-test.pdf>

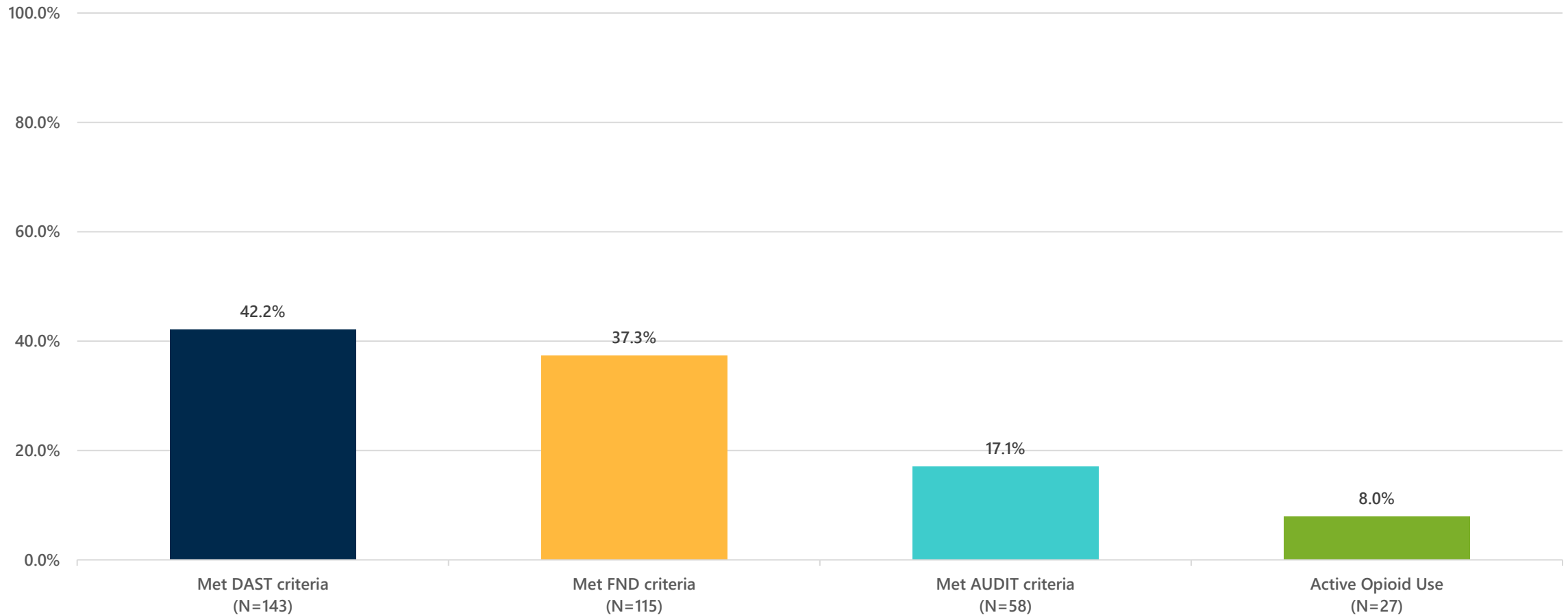
The Fagerström Test

- The Fagerström Test for Nicotine Dependence is a standard instrument for assessing the intensity of physical addiction to nicotine.
- The test was designed to provide an ordinal measure of nicotine dependence related to cigarette smoking.
- It contains six items that evaluate the quantity of cigarette consumption, the compulsion to use, and dependence.
- In scoring the Fagerstrom Test for Nicotine Dependence, yes/no items are scored from 0 to 1 and multiple-choice items are scored from 0 to 3.
- The items are summed to yield a total score of 0-10. The higher the total Fagerström score, the more intense is the patient's physical dependence on nicotine.

<https://cde.nida.nih.gov/instrument/d7c0b0f5-b865-e4de-e040-bb89ad43202b#:~:text=The%20Fagerstr%C3%B6m%20Test%20for%20Nicotine,dependence%20related%20to%20cigarette%20smoking.>

Result of Screening (MATinACT)

Overall percentage of 339 clients with valid Initial Screeners who Met Screening Criteria



Conclusion

- Screening for SUD is crucial
- Should be a routine and important element of new intakes – in and outpatients
- Uniform Screening instruments and requirements across DMHAS
- Best if presented in the context of behavioral and lifestyle questions

Thank You!

- Questions