

## CRAFFT [1]

### **Description:** CRAFFT Questionnaire

The CRAFFT is specifically intended for adolescents who may be using alcohol and/or other drugs. This screening tool asks about situations that suit adolescents under the age of 21. This instrument takes about 5 minutes to administer, making it an excellent tool for a primary care provider.

### Evidence

- Studies using the CRAFFT have found that asking an adolescent whether they have been “riding with a driver who is using drugs or alcohol” is the single most important question for assessing substance use (Knight et al. 1999, 2003).
- Included as one of several screening instruments shown to have acceptable sensitivity for identifying alcohol problems or disorders in adolescents (Knight et al. 2002).

### Indications

- If you believe an adolescent has been using or abusing alcohol and/or other substances.

### Advantages

- Screens for both alcohol AND drug use
- Score is correlated with increasing severity of diagnostic classification
- Can be given orally to the adolescent patient during the medical visit, after parents have left the room
- Has been proven valid in other cultures, including American-Indian and Alaska-Native adolescents (Cummins et al. 2003)

### Limitations

- Should only be administered to adolescent patients

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## CRAFFT Questions

1. Have you ever ridden in a Car driven by someone (including yourself) who was high or had been using alcohol or drugs?

Yes

No

2. Do you ever use alcohol or drugs to Relax, feel better about yourself, or fit in?

Yes

No

3. Do you ever use alcohol or drugs while you are by yourself Alone?

Yes

No

4. Do you ever Forget things you did while using alcohol or drugs?

Yes

No

5. Do your Family or Friends ever tell you that you should cut down on your drinking or drug use?

Yes

No

6. Have you ever gotten into Trouble while you were using alcohol or drugs?

Yes

No

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## Scoring

2 or more positive items indicate the need for further assessment.

Knight, J. R., Shrier, L. A., Bravender, T. D., Farrell, M., Vander Bilt, J., & Shaffer, H. J. (1999). A new brief screen for adolescent substance abuse. *Archives of Pediatrics. Adolescent Medicine*, 153, 591-596.

Knight, J. R., Sherritt, L., Harris, S. K., Gates, E. C., and Chang, G. (2003). Validity of brief alcohol screening tests among adolescents: A comparison of the AUDIT, POSIT, CAGE, and CRAFFT. *Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research* 27, 67-73.

## References

Cummins L, Chan K, Burns K, Blume A, Larimer M, Marlatt G. Validity of the CRAFFT in American-Indian and Alaska-Native Adolescents: Screening for Drug

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and Alcohol Risk. Journal of Studies on Alcohol [serial online]. September 2003;64(5):727-732. Available from: Academic Search Premier, Ipswich, MA. Accessed February 12, 2010.

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