

# TWEAK

## **Description:**

The TWEAK screening test consists of five questions designed to screen pregnant women for harmful drinking habits. The tool consists of questions from the CAGE as well as the MAST, regarding tolerance and amnesia.

## **Advantages**

Specific for pregnant women

## **Limitations**

May not be as accurate as other screening tools such as the CAGE and the AUDIT

## **Sensitivity and Specificity**

In one study of 4,743 women who were given the MAST, CAGE, and T-ACE tolerance question, the calculated sensitivity and specificity of the TWEAK were 79% and 83%, respectively (Chang, 2001).

## **Scoring**

The TWEAK is scored on a 7-point scale. On the tolerance question, 2 points are given if a woman reports that she can consume more than five drinks without falling asleep or passing out. A positive response to the worry question yields 2 points, and positive responses to the last three questions yield 1 point each. A woman who has a total score of 2 or more points is likely to be an at-risk drinker (Chang, 2001).

## **The TWEAK**

1. How many drinks does it take to make you feel high?
2. Have close friends or relatives worried or complained about your drinking in the past year?
3. Do you sometimes take a drink in the morning when you first get up?
4. Has a friend or family member ever told you about things you said or did while you were drinking that you could not remember?
5. Do you sometimes feel the need to cut down on your drinking?