

RAPID ALCOHOL PROBLEMS SCREEN (RAPS)

The Rapid Alcohol Problems Screen (RAPS) was developed by Cheryl J. Cherpitel at the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley, CA, USA (Cherpitel, C.J., Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 40:133-137, 1995). It is a 5-item screening instrument which has been found to have good sensitivity and specificity for identifying those currently meeting diagnostic criteria (ICD-10 and DSM-IV) for alcohol dependence in emergency department and other primary care settings. The instrument has been shown to perform equally well across ethnic groups (whites, blacks, Mexican-Americans) in the U.S., and for males and females in the U.S. and in Mexico.

The RAPS is a brief instrument. There is no weighting, adding or scoring of responses. A positive response on any item qualifies as being positive on the RAPS. The first question of the RAPS, having to do with feeling guilt or remorse after drinking, identifies over 80% of those meeting criteria for alcohol dependence.

The **RAPS4** is a 4-item version of the RAPS (Cherpitel, C.J., Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 61:447-449, 2000), and **excludes the last item having to do with losing friends because of drinking**. The RAPS4 has been found to perform as well as the RAPS in clinical settings.

The **RAPS4-QF** is a 6-item version of the RAPS4 (Cherpitel, C.J., Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research, 26:1686-1691, 2002; Cherpitel, C.J. and Bazargan, S., Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 71:275-280, 2003), which **includes two items related to quantity and frequency** of alcohol consumption. A **positive response on both** of these items increases sensitivity of the RAPS4 for identifying those currently meeting diagnostic criteria for alcohol abuse (DSM-IV) and harmful drinking (ICD-10). Both the RAPS4 and RAPS4-QF have been found to have good sensitivity and specificity for alcohol use disorders in the general population and in clinical populations. A full description of the development and application of the RAPS/RAPS4/RAPS4-QF can be found in: Cherpitel, C.J., *The Rapid Alcohol Problems Screen (RAPS): Methods and Application*, Comprehensive Handbook of Alcohol Related Pathology, Vol. 3, Selective Methods Used in Alcohol Research, Eds. V.R. Preedy and R.R. Watson, Academic Press (Elsevier Science): London, UK, Chapter 105:1415-1427, 2005.

RAPS Items

1. During the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking? (**Remorse**)
2. During the last year has a friend or a family member ever told you about things you said or did while you were drinking that you could not remember? (**Amnesia**)
3. During the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of drinking? (**Perform**)
4. Do you sometime take a drink when you first get up in the morning? (**Starter**)
5. During the last year have you lost friends or girlfriends or boyfriends because of drinking?

During the last year have you had 5 or more drinks on at least one occasion? (**Quantity**)

and

During the last year do you drink as often as once a month? (**Frequency**)

Spanish Version of the RAPS

1. ¿Durante el último año, ¿se sintió culpable o tuvo remordimientos por haber bebido?
 2. ¿Durante el último año, ¿le ha hablado un amigo o familiar de cosas que usted haya hecho o dicho cuando estaba bebiendo, las cuales no recuerda?
 3. ¿Durante el último año, ¿dejó de hacer algo que debería haber hecho por beber?
 4. ¿Tomó usted en ocasiones una copa por la mañana inmediatamente después de levantarse?
 5. ¿Durante el último año, ¿ha perdido amigos o novias o novios debido al consumo de bebidas alcohólicas?
- ¿ Durante el último año, tomó 5 o más copas de bebidas alcohólicas en la misma ocasión?
- and**
- ¿ Durante el último año, tomó cualquier bebida alcohólica por lo menos una vez al mes?