

Practical Assessment of Alcohol Use Disorder Using the Alcohol Symptom Checklist



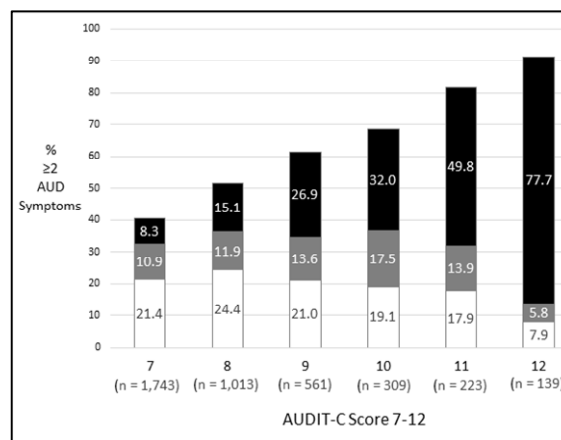
The Alcohol Symptom Checklist mirrors the American Psychiatric Association’s DSM-5 criteria and supports further assessing patients for an Alcohol Use Disorder if they score seven (7) or more on the AUDIT-C. It promotes patient engagement and enables you to learn more about a patient’s relationship to alcohol rather than their level of alcohol use.

In the past 12 months...

1. Did you find that drinking the same amount of alcohol has less effect than it used to or did you have to drink more alcohol to get intoxicated?	No	Yes
2. When you cut down or stop drinking did you get sweaty, nervous, have upset stomach or shaky hands? Did you drink alcohol or take other substances to avoid these symptoms?	No	Yes
3. When you drank, did you drink more or for longer than you planned to?	No	Yes
4. Have you wanted to or tried to cut back or stop drinking alcohol, but been unable to do so?	No	Yes
5. Did you spend a lot of time obtaining alcohol, drinking alcohol, or recovering from drinking?	No	Yes
6. Have you continued to drink even though you knew or suspected it creates or worsens mental or physical problems?	No	Yes
7. Has drinking interfered with your responsibilities at work, school, or home?	No	Yes
8. Have you been intoxicated more than once in situations where it was dangerous, such as driving a car or operating machinery?	No	Yes
9. Did you drink alcohol even though you knew or suspected it causes problems with your family or other people?	No	Yes
10. Did you experience strong desires or craving to drink alcohol?	No	Yes
11. Did you spend less time working, enjoying hobbies, or being with others because of your drinking?	No	Yes

In your assessment, you’ll discover the number of symptoms and if these symptoms are recurrent for the patient. This process will enable you to determine if symptoms meet the criteria for a Mild Alcohol Use Disorder (2-3 recurrent symptoms), a Moderate Alcohol Use Disorder (4-5 recurrent symptoms), or a Severe Alcohol Use Disorder (≥ 6 recurrent symptoms).

Based on a study in primary care, Sayre JGIM 2020, the relationship between an Alcohol Use Disorder increases substantially as the score of the AUDIT-C increases in correlation to the number of symptoms on the Alcohol Symptom Checklist



WHITE: Mild (2-3 AUD symptoms)
 GREY: Moderate (4-5 AUD symptoms)
 BLACK: Severe (≥ 6 AUD symptoms)