DAST

Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST)

The Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST) is a questionnaire used for rapid screening of problematic use of illicit substances, excluding alcohol and tobacco. It provides an overview of the potential severity of drug abuse or dependence.

Number of questions	10 questions
Estimated duration	5 minutes
Language	English
Original name	Drug Abuse Screening Test
Target audience	Adults
Authors	Harvey A. Skinner (1982)
Category	Addictions

Preview of the 10 questions

In the past 12 months:

Have you used drugs other than those required for medical reasons?

No Yes

In the past 12 months:

Do you use more than one drug at a time?

No Yes

In the past 12 months:

Are you always able to stop using drugs when you want to?

No Yes

In the past 12 months:

Have you had "blackouts" or "flashbacks" as a result of drug use?

No Yes

In the past 12 months:

Do you ever feel bad or guilty about your drug use?

No Yes

Scoring & interpretation

Each 'yes' answer is worth 1 point and each 'no' is worth 0. A total score of 0 suggests no problem, 1 to 2 indicates use that should be monitored, 3 to 5 signals moderate problematic use, and 6 or more suggests severe dependence and the need for an in-depth assessment.