Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test (MAST)

The MAST is one of the most widely used measures for assessing alcohol abuse. The measure is a 25-item question-naire designed to provide a rapid and effective screening for lifetime alcohol-related problems and alcoholism. The MAST, which can be used in either a paper-and-pencil or interview format, has been productively used in a variety of settings with varied populations. Several briefer versions of the MAST have been offered (see below).

Target Population

Adults

Administrative Issues

25 items, 0 subscales

Pencil and paper self-administered or interview

Time required: 10 min

Administered by practitioner or self

No training required for administration

Also available are briefer versions of the MAST, including the 10-item Brief MAST (Pokorny et al., Am J Psychiatry 129:342-345, 1972), the 13-item Short MAST (SMAST) (Selzer et al., J Stud Alcohol 36:117-126, 1975), and a 9-item modified version called the Malmo modification (Mm-MAST) (Kristenson and Trell, Br J Addict 77:297-304, 1982). A geriatric version of the MAST, called the MAST-G, also has been developed (Mudd et al., Alcoholism Clin Exp Res 17:489, 1993).

Scoring

Time required: 5 minutes

Scored by staff

No computerized scoring or interpretation available

No norms available

Psychometrics

Reliability studies done:

Test-retest

Internal consistency

Measures of validity derived:

Content

Criterion (predictive, concurrent, "postdictive")

Clinical Utility of Instrument

To screen for alcoholism with a variety of populations.

Research Applicability

Useful in assessing extent of lifetime alcohol-related consequences.

Copyright, Cost, and Source Issues

No copyright

Cost: \$5 for copy, no fee for use

Source:

Melvin L. Selzer, M.D. 6967 Paseo Laredo La Jolla, CA 92037

Source Reference

Selzer, M.L. The Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test: The quest for a new diagnostic instrument. Am J Psychiatry 127:1653-1658, 1971.

Supporting References

- Zung, B.J., and Charalampous, K.D. Item analysis of the Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test. J Stud Alcohol 36:127-132, 1975.
- Skinner, H.A. A multivariate evaluation of the MAST. J Stud Alcohol 40:851-844, 1979.
- Zung, B.J. Factor structure of the Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test in a psychiatric outpatient population. J Clin Psychol 36:1024–1030, 1980.
- Skinner, H.A., and Sheu, W.J. Reliability of alcohol use indices: The Lifetime Drinking History and the MAST. J Stud Alcohol 43:1157-1170, 1982.
- Hedlund, J.L., and Vieweg, B.W. The Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test (MAST): A comprehensive review. J Operational Psychiatry 15:55-64, 1984.

MICHIGAN ALCOHOLISM SCREENING TEST (MAST)

Points			YES	МО
	0.	Do you enjoy a drink now and then?		
(2)	*1.	Do you feel you are a normal drinker? (By normal we mean you drink less than or as much as most other people.)	****	
(2)	2.	Have you ever awakened the morning after some drinking the night before and found that you could not remember a part of the evening?		_
(1)	3.	Does your wife, husband, a parent, or other near relative ever worry or complain about your drinking?		
(2)	•4.	Can you stop drinking without a struggle after one or two drinks?	_	
(1)	5.	Do you ever feel guilty about your drinking?		
(2)	•6.	Do friends or relatives think you are a normal drinker?		
(2)	*7.	Are you able to stop drinking when you want to?		_
(5)	8.	Have you ever attended a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)?		
(1)	9.	Have you gotten into physical fights when drinking?		
(2)	10.	Has your drinking ever created problems between you and your wife, husband, a parent, or other relative?		_
(2)	11.	Has your wife, husband (or other family members) ever gone to anyone for help about your drinking?		
(2)	12.	Have you ever lost friends because of your drinking?		
(2)	13.	Have you ever gotten into trouble at work or school because of drinking?		
(2)	14.	Have you ever lost a job because of drinking?		
(2)	15.	Have you ever neglected your obligations, your family, or your work for two or more days in a row because you were drinking?		
(1)	16.	Do you drink before noon fairly often?		
(2)	17.	Have you ever been told you have liver trouble? Cirrhosis?		

^{*} Alcoholic response is negative

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			YES	NO
(2)	**18.	After heavy drinking have you ever had Delirium Tremens (D.T.'s) or severe shaking, or heard voices or seen things that really weren't there?		
		weren tillere:		
(5)	19.	Have you ever gone to anyone for help about your drinking?		-
(5)	20.	Have you ever been in a hospital because of drinking?		
(2)	21.	Have you ever been a patient in a psychiatric hospital or on a psychiatric ward of a general hospital where drinking was part of the problem that resulted in hospitalization?		_
(2)	22.	Have you ever been seen at a psychiatric or mental health clinic or gone to any doctor, social worker, or clergyman for help with any emotional problem, where drinking was part of the problem?	_	_
(2)	***23.	Have you ever been arrested for drunk driving, driving while intoxicated, or driving under the influence of alcoholic beverages?		
		(IF YES, How many times?)		
(2)	24.	Have you ever been arrested, or taken into custody, even for a few hours, because of other drunk behavior?	_	
		(IF YES, How many times?)		
		** 5 points for each Delirium Tremens		
		*** 2 points for each arrest		
SC	ORING	G SYSTEM: In general, five points or more would place the subject in an "alcoholic" category. Four points would be suggestive of alcoholism, three points or less would indicate the subject we not alcoholic.	ns	

Programs using the above scoring system find it very sensitive at the five point level and it tends to find more people alcoholic than anticipated. However, it is a screening test and should be sensitive at its lower levels.