

## **Substance Use Disorder Screener**

### **What is it?**

The Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test Consumption screening tool (AUDIT-C) is a 3 question screen that can help identify patients with alcohol misuse. The AUDIT-C is a modified version of the 10 question AUDIT screening instrument. The instrument has clinical utility in reliably identifying patients who are hazardous drinkers or who have alcohol use disorders.

### **Link(s) to Screener(s)**

[AUDIT-C](https://iusbirt.org/tools/audit-c-screening-tool-overview/)—[iusbirt.org/tools/audit-c-screening-tool-overview/](https://iusbirt.org/tools/audit-c-screening-tool-overview/)

### **How to use it / Who should administer**

It is a self-report measure.

### **How to interpret / Next Steps**

The AUDIT-C is scored on a scale of 0-12 points (scores of 0 reflect no alcohol use in the past year). In men, a score of 4 points or more is considered positive for alcohol misuse; in women, a score of 3 points or more is considered positive. Generally, the higher the AUDIT-C score, the more likely it is that the patient's drinking is affecting his/her health and safety.

What to do with results? Decision tree / logic model for next steps

The AUDIT-C is a short screener and a positive screen requires further discussion with the patient to see if they have an alcohol use disorder. If you have a behavioral health specialist on staff, ask them to assess the patient further. If you're without a BH specialist, you and the patient can look together at the [DSM 5 criteria for Alcohol Use Disorder](#) and see if they meet criteria. If they do, this is a useful clinical pathway for [treatment decision making](#).