

Online Gambling: Screening and Assessment Tools

In this document, service providers can find valid screening and assessment tools to use with children and youth who present with problematic online gambling. Screening tools identify potential concerns and determine if further assessment is needed. Assessment tools are used to gain a deeper understanding of a client's problems with gambling, should concerns be identified through screening.

Questions about online gambling may be administered independently, or as part of a larger psychosocial assessment. Both screening and assessment are helpful to support the development of a treatment plan, and clarify areas of potential intervention.

Screening and assessment tools may not provide conclusive evidence that an individual meets the criteria for a diagnosis of gambling disorder. Service providers concerned about their client's digital technology use may refer their client to a mental health or addiction professional with expertise in process addictions. They may also explore the client's involvement in those areas, either with specific screening tools or interview questions [1].

Gambling Screening Tools

South Oaks Gambling Screen-Revised for Adolescents (SOGS-RA)

This is a valid instrument to assess gambling behaviour and gambling related problems [2,3].

http://www.ncpgambling.org/files/NPGAW/SOGS_RA.pdf

Massachusetts Adolescent Gambling Screen (MAGS). Academia

During a 5- to 10-minute survey or interview, this clinical screening instrument identifies non-pathological and pathological gambling [4].

https://www.academia.edu/4296441/Pathological_gambling_among_adolescents_Massachusetts_Gambling_Screen_MAGS

Brief Biosocial Gambling Screen (BBGS)

This self-administered three-question brief screening tool is based on the DSM-IV criteria for pathological gambling [5]. This screening tool can be found and downloaded from the International Centre for Responsible Gambling: <https://www.icrg.org/resources/brief-biosocial-gambling-screen>

Gambling Assessment Tools

Canadian Adolescent Gambling Inventory (CAGI)

This inventory was formally known as the Adolescent Problem Gambling Instrument (APGI). Its 44 questions identify and assess risky and problematic gambling in teenagers' ages 13 to 17 [6].

Information, and a link to the final report, can be found on the PRIMS University of Calgary Digital Repository website <https://prism.ucalgary.ca/handle/1880/48158>

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This test is also available in French (*Inventaire canadien des jeux de hasard et d'argent chez l'adolescent (ICJA)*); it can be found through the Université de Trois-Rivières' website: https://oraprdnt.uqtr.quebec.ca/pls/public/gscw031?owa_no_site=4242&owa_no_fiche=191

Some other options for screening and assessing gambling problem can be found at Provincial System Support Program (PSSP). Gambling, Gaming & Technology Use. Knowledge Exchange, CAMH

<https://learn.problemgambling.ca/eip/screening-assessment>

References

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