

### [DAST-10](#) [1]

**Description:** The Drug Abuse Screening Test, or DAST, is a self-administered test designed to provide a brief screening for drug abuse, followed by further assessment by a health care professional if necessary.

The 28-item, self-reporting Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST) was created to screen for substance use in a clinical or treatment evaluation setting (Skinner 1982). A shorter version of the original DAST, the DAST-10, may be useful to screen for drug abuse in primary care.

1. Have you used drugs other than those required for medical reasons?
2. Do you abuse more than one drug at a time?
3. Are you always able to stop using drugs when you want to?
4. Have you ever had blackouts or flashbacks as a result of drug use?
5. Do you ever feel bad or guilty about your drug use?
6. Does your spouse (or parents) ever complain about your involvement with drugs?
7. Have you ever neglected your family or missed work because of your use of drugs?
8. Have you ever engaged in illegal activities in order to obtain drugs?
9. Have you ever experienced withdrawal symptoms (felt sick) when you stopped taking drugs?
10. Have you had medical problems as a result of your drug use (e.g. memory loss, hepatitis, convulsions, bleeding)?

**Scoring:** Each positive response receives 1 point. Six or more positive responses indicate a need for the provider to address the problem immediately.

- 1 - 2 points = monitor patient and reassess later
- 3 - 5 points = investigate substance use further
- 6 - 8 points = address the problem immediately

---

The questionnaire is reprinted with permission from Dr. Harvey Skinner. Copyright © 1982 Addiction Research Foundation.

#### **Links:**

[1] <https://www.buppractice.com/node/1521>