

TWEAK

(Tolerance, Worried, Eye-opener, Amnesia, K-Cut Down)

Description: The TWEAK screening test consists of five questions designed to screen pregnant women for harmful drinking habits. The tool consists of questions from the CAGE as well as the MAST, regarding tolerance and amnesia.

The TWEAK:

QUESTION	ANSWER	POINTS
1. How many drinks does it take to make you feel high? (3 or more drinks = 2 points)		
2. Have close friends or relatives worried or complained about your drinking in the past year? (Yes = 1 point)		
3. Do you sometimes take a drink in the morning when you first get up? (Yes = 1 point)		
4. Are there times when you drink and afterwards can't remember what you said or did? (Yes = 1 point)		
5. Do you sometimes feel the need to cut down on your drinking? (Yes = 1 point)		
TOTAL SCORE		

Scoring: The TWEAK is scored on a 7-point scale. On the tolerance question (#1), 2 points are given if a woman reports that she can consume more than five drinks without falling asleep or passing out. A positive response to the worry question (#2) yields 2 points, and positive responses to the last three questions yield 1 point each. A woman who has a total score of 2 or more points is likely to be an at-risk drinker (Chang, 2001).

Source: Russell, M (1994). New Assessment tools for risk drinking during pregnancy: T-ACE, TWEAK and others. Alcohol Health and Research World.

CHAN, A. K.; PRISTACH, E. A.; WELTE, J. W.; AND RUSSELL, M. The TWEAK test in screening for alcoholism/ heavy drinking in three populations. *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* 6: 1188-1192, 1993.