



Excessive drug use including Rx abuse

Angela T. illustrates a profile often seen in people who acknowledge that they use drugs excessively and have come to rely on them as a coping resource.

Angela's scores on the SASSI-4 meet the criteria for classifying her as having a high probability of a substance use disorder. Angela's score on the Rx scale also indicates a high probability of prescription drug abuse.

Reviewing her scale scores reveals openness in disclosing her use of drugs and alcohol. On FVOD and SYM, Angela acknowledges extensive use of drugs and many negative consequences and symptoms of abuse. Examining her answers to specific items on these scales may help you counsel Angela, and may suggest good starting points for a more detailed history of her use of alcohol, drugs and prescription medications.

On SYM Angela acknowledges serious substance misuse that she acknowledges resulted in making her problems worse, increased tolerance, excessive use, and wishing she could cut down her use of substances. Her OAT score is in the average range, which can indicate that Angela does not necessarily align herself with those characteristics associated with substance abusers and she may not see herself as a 'drug addict.'

With her Prescription Drug scale (Rx) score of 6, it is useful to look at those individual items as well.

Angela's moderate DEF score suggests she can be open and realistic in acknowledging her difficulties and substance misuse. The rest of her scores fall within the normal range, between the 15th and 85th percentiles.

Given Angela's high level of drug use and consequences, you might consider a more comprehensive evaluation to determine whether she can maintain sobriety and function well enough to benefit from a treatment program. She may need supervised detoxification or other intensive intervention.

You may find Angela able to acknowledge that she uses drugs frequently and perhaps that she drinks to excess. However, she may not see that her behavior varies dramatically from others who don't have a substance use disorder. Feedback on where her scores fall on the profile sheet may help her see that her behaviors are not typical. Examining the items that Angela endorsed on the FVA, FVOD, SYM, and Rx scales may provide useful insight into her motivations for using and help her see the consequences that result from her use. Angela may need your help to acknowledge her pain and to recognize that there are alternatives to her current lifestyle.

The SASSI-4 screens for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) along the full DSM-5 continuum of severity: mild, moderate, and severe. A new brief scale, Prescription Drug (Rx), was added to accurately identify individuals likely to be abusing prescription medications. Read a full sample assessment report on Angela T. in the SASSI-4 User Guide & Manual.

SASSI-4 Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory

To reorder: 1-800-726-0526

Professionals may call 888-297-2774 for free assistance interpreting this profile.

Name **Angela T** Gender **F** Age **32**

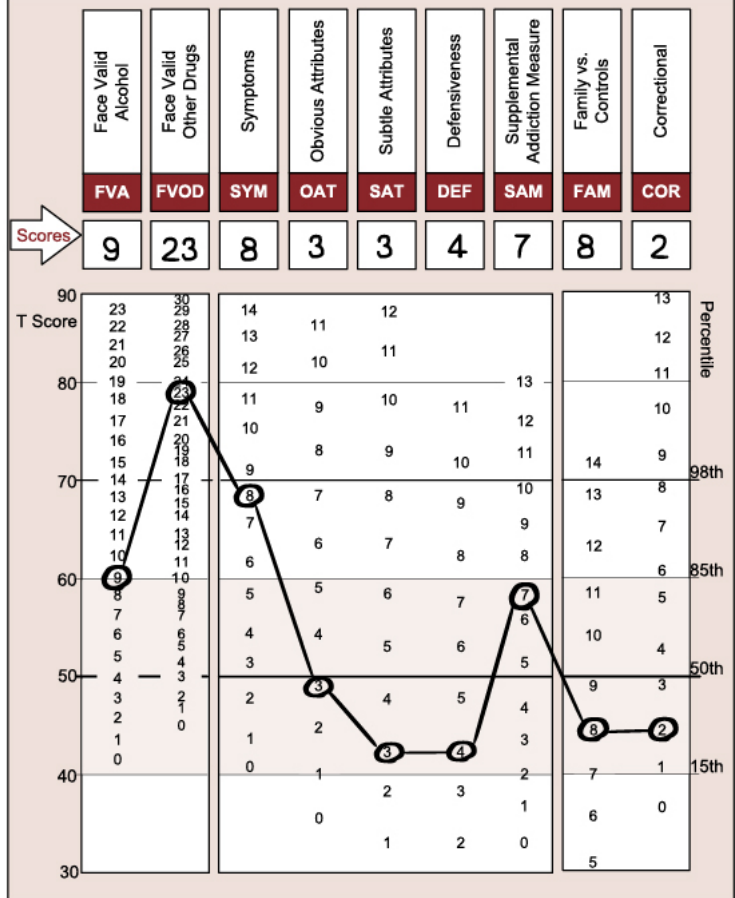
Case Number _____ Test date _____



RAP Random Answering Pattern

0 — If **RAP** is 2 or more results may not be meaningful. Try to resolve problem before proceeding.

Adult Female Profile



Rx Prescription Drug Scale
 Rx1 1 + Rx2 5 = Rx Total **6**

Check every rule, yes or no.

- Rule 1**
 a. FVA 20 or more **Either** **yes** **no**
 b. FVOD 20 or more **a or b?** **yes** **no**
- Rule 2**
 SYM 7 or more? **yes** **no**
- Rule 3**
 OAT 8 or more? **yes** **no**
- Rule 4**
 SAT 7 or more? **yes** **no**
- Rule 5**
 a. SYM 5 or more **Both** **yes** **no**
 b. SAT 4 or more **a and b?** **yes** **no**
- Rule 6**
 a. SYM 6 or more
 b. DEF **OR** SAM 7 or more **Both** **yes** **no**
- Rule 7**
 a. OAT 7 or more **Both** **yes** **no**
 b. SAT 6 or more **a and b?** **yes** **no**
- Rule 8**
 a. FVA **OR** FVOD 3 or more
 b. OAT 3 or more **All three** **yes** **no**
 c. DEF 9 or more **a, b and c?** **yes** **no**
- Rule 9**
 a. FVA 6 or more **OR** FVOD 4 or more
 b. SAT 3 or more **All three** **yes** **no**
 c. DEF 7 or more **a, b and c?** **yes** **no**
- Rule 10**
 a. FVA 14 or more **OR** FVOD 8 or more
 b. SAT 1 or more
 c. DEF 4 or more
 d. SAM 4 or more **All four** **yes** **no**

THE DECISION RULE:

1. ANY rule answered "yes"? **HIGH PROBABILITY** of having a Substance Use Disorder
 Check if Rx is 3 or more High Probability of Prescription Drug Abuse

2. ALL rules answered "no"? **LOW PROBABILITY** of having a Substance Use Disorder
 Check if DEF is 8 or more ____ Elevated DEF scores increase the possibility of the SASSI missing individuals with a substance use disorder. Elevated DEF may also reflect situational factors.

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