
Addiction ===== ===== Assessments

It is stressful to be told that you must be evaluated; attorney visits, financial worries, insurance concerns, public embarrassment, coping with family and friends' reactions, and a lack of privacy while you wait in public lobby areas of the court make this a difficult situation. And if you choose to wait nervously in the lobby of the hospital or mental health center for your turn to be evaluated, you may wonder, "When did I lose control of my life?"

Aren't all evaluations the same?

NO, there are major differences in evaluation design, the evaluator's qualifications and the interpretation of test results.

An assessment is designed to identify whether or not you are chemically dependent and, if so, it may also recommend a treatment program and facility that can best help you in your current "stage of addiction." Mental health counselors and evaluators who are affiliated with a hospital-based treatment center struggle with a difficult circumstance: the need to fill their treatment beds and therapy sessions creates an undeniable bias against anyone they diagnose.

Denial, a common symptom of alcoholism and drug abuse, is very often difficult to detect, which is why most alcohol and drug test designs have been overly concerned with missing the identification of an alcoholic in denial.

Counseling agencies and hospital-based treatment centers typically administer tests that are written very broadly so that people with alcohol and drug problems do not slip through undetected.

The negative consequence is that people who do not have chemical dependency problems are also identified as being in denial. In a recent study, it was discovered that chemical dependency tests, in order to minimize denial, were incorrectly identifying non-dependent people as having alcohol problems 43% of the time. In other words, many people were being misdiagnosed and labeled as alcoholics or addicts when, in reality, they were not.

Any diagnostician will only be as good as his or her training, the quality of the test and the evaluator's unbiased interpretation. Misdiagnoses, along with costly and unnecessary treatment services, have been a major influence in the recent move by insurance companies to closely monitor and limit admissions for chemical dependency treatment.

Addiction Assessments is different

At Addiction Assessments we guarantee your privacy, confidentiality and comfort. We work for you and will attempt to schedule the assessment interview at your convenience.

Addiction Assessments has no affiliation with any treatment provider, assuring you the utmost integrity in the evaluation process. Addiction Assessments' strict adherence to this policy of non-affiliation guarantees you the results will be without bias.

How accurate are the addiction assessments?

When you call Addiction Assessments a highly qualified professional will interview you. We use only state-of-the-art diagnostic evaluation instruments. Our diagnostic tests have been scientifically researched and proven to be the most reliable tests available for alcoholism and drug addiction. The end result is a 90% accuracy of early stage abuse, a 98% reliability of middle and late stage addictions, and a screen that successfully identifies non-dependent people.

Any individual, regardless of sex, race or age, can be assessed accurately when only the facts are considered. And you will find you will be more relaxed in our office than you would be in a treatment setting, which allows the process to be more open and the outcome more precise.

Will the courts accept the assessment?

We will provide you with documentation that is acceptable in any court. We utilize two scientifically validated diagnostic instruments to determine the severity, if any, of a chemical dependency problem. We cross check our scales to verify outcomes prior to presenting them to you. This guarantees accuracy of the assessment and avoids harmful mislabeling of non-dependent people. Our primary evaluation instrument is the only diagnostic test recommended by major funding and accrediting bodies of the federal government, including the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA), the National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH), and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

What do I get and how much does the assessment cost?

The cost of the evaluation interview, written diagnostic report, delivery to you, all phone calls and follow-up consultation is only \$50.00 per hour with a \$200.00 minimum (usual charge). Divorce, OCS, DOT-related and institutional rates are available by phone. You may pay by check, credit card, or if you come to the office for the interview you may pay with cash.

Your assessment results are validated against a second test instrument, creating an accurate and detailed diagnostic report. The diagnosis is easily located in the report and includes a detailed explanation of the outcome. If applicable, included with the diagnosis will be specific treatment recommendations based strictly on your needs. If treatment or counseling is required, we will provide you with written information and telephone support that will help you to choose a quality care provider.

What if I need a signed copy for my attorney or the courts?

You will automatically receive an original and one copy of your report. If you prefer, with your authorization, we can send the report directly to the courts, your attorney's office or anywhere you request. In any case, we work for you and cannot release information over the phone or to other people without your authorization.

How long does this take?

When you call between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, we will attempt to schedule you for an interview as soon as possible – usually within a maximum of 5 working days. The interview takes approximately 1 ½ hours on average. Once the evaluation interview is completed, we can get the results to you when you need them. We normally deliver the results within approximately five days after the interview, but if needed (and if possible), we can deliver the entire assessment to you within a day or so for an additional fee.

At Addiction Assessments we care about you and want you to be free from bias and stress. We promise to treat you with respect and dignity. So, why not have the most accurate and unbiased evaluation available? If you want an accurate Addiction Assessment, please call us now at 907-562-0181 or 907-677-0560. If long distance, you can call toll free at 1-888-486-0181.

**Addiction =====
===== Assessments, LLC**

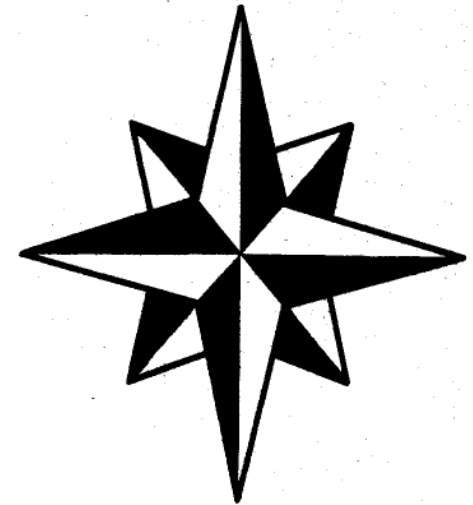
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Alcohol & Drug Evaluations

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evaluation**



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