**PREVENTIVE CARE RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**ADULT- AGES 19 AND ABOVE**

### CAGE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Instructions to Physicians**

These questions, asked as part of the routine history taking, can elicit important information that screens for alcoholism.

While the questions are being answered, observe the patient’s attitude as a subjective indicator of potential alcoholism, and score the instruments accordingly: rationalization, denial, projection of blame, etc. The manner in which the questions are answered is important.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAGE Questionnaire for Alcoholism¹</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Have you ever tried <strong>Cut</strong> down on your drinking?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Are you <strong>Annoyed</strong> when people ask you about your drinking?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Do you ever feel <strong>Guilty</strong> about your drinking?</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Do you ever take morning <strong>Eye-opener</strong>?</td>
<td>☐</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Scoring**

1 “Yes” response: Possible alcoholism  
2 “Yes” responses: High alcoholism suspicion index  
3 “Yes” responses: High alcoholism suspicion index  
4 “Yes” responses: Alcoholism diagnosis likely

With all patients scoring 1 to 4 “Yes” responses, administer [SMAST](#).

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References:  
Ewing JA Detecting Alcoholism, the CAGE questionnaire, JAMA 1984.252 1905-1997