

HALT-C Trial Q x Q

Skinner

Form # 41 Version B: 01/02/2001

Purpose of Form #41: The Skinner form uses patient interview format to record lifetime alcohol consumption patterns. The Skinner is completed using patient interview format. Drinks containing alcohol include beer, liquor, wine, and wine coolers.

When to complete Form #41: This form should be completed for all HALT-C patients at the Screening visit (S00).

SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION

- A1. Affix the patient ID label in the space provided.
 - If the label is not available, record the ID number legibly.
- A2. Enter the patient's initials exactly as recorded on the Trial ID Assignment form.
- A3. The visit number, S00, is pre-printed on the form and does not need to be data entered.
- A4. Record the date of this visit using MM/DD/YYYY format.
- A5. Enter the initials of the person completing the form.

SECTION B: LIFETIME ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

Before you start the patient interview, it is important that you have the following items needed to complete the Skinner Interview.

- "Questions for Skinner" document (separate from the Skinner Form #41)
- CARD #6 (Lifetime Drinking History Example)
- CARD #7(One Standard Drink)
- CARD #8 (Style)
- CARD #9 (Life Events)

To begin the Skinner interview, read the Section B introductory paragraphs to the patient.

Then read Question B1 to the patient.

Question B1 is intended to capture both drinkers who drank at least once a month for a year and binge drinkers who may not have drunk once a month, but still have a significant alcohol history.

If the patient reports that s/he drank either:

- a) At least one drink per month over a 12-month period, **or**
- b) Drank at least three drinks per day for at least three consecutive days over a regular period of time.

Circle 1 for YES and continue to Section C.

Otherwise, Circle 2 for NO and the interview and form are complete.

SECTION C: LIFETIME DRINKING HISTORY

Section C is set up in table form to record the different Phases of a person's drinking history. Each row is a distinct Phase of the patient's drinking history, and each column describes particulars (such as age, quantity, etc.) about that distinct Phase. Use the questions written on the "**Questions for Skinner**" document to fill out each column. This QxQ follows the columns a (age) through k (life events). The instructions below explain how to fill out the table column by column. As you continue the questioning for each Phase, complete the table row by row. Use extensive probing to help focus the patient and to obtain the information needed.

Phase # Column:

Phase 1 is the time at which the patient began to have at least one drink per month for at least 1 year. Subsequent Phases are recorded for Phases where the patient's drinking behaviors were different in a significant way from the previous Phase. If a patient abstained for a period of time, that should be reported as a distinct Phase.

Column (a) & Column (b): Age Range

PHASE I: Now, I am going to ask you about your drinking pattern during the first year that you began to have at least one drink per month. How old were you when you first began regular drinking?

SUBSEQUENT PHASES: How old were you when this next phase began?

If the patient does not understand what information the interviewer is trying to elicit, show the patient **CARD #6** as an example.

Use the following table to record the age (estimated to one decimal point) to identify the beginning and end of a Phase. Ask the patient what age s/he was when each Phase began for column (a). Probe to get a month as well as the year by asking the season of the year, was it around the person's birthday, etc. For determining the end age of a Phase in column (b), subtract one month from the age at the beginning of the next Phase.

1 month = 0.1	4 months = 0.3	7 months = 0.6	10 months = 0.9
2 months = 0.2	5 months = 0.4	8 months = 0.7	11 months = 0.9
3 months = 0.3	6 months = 0.5	9 months = 0.8	12 months = 1.0

Example of age range calculation:

The patient states he first started drinking at age 16 related to peer pressure in high school. At age 22, he got married and cut down on his drinking.

The interviewer tries to pinpoint the start age: "Can you tell me what month you started drinking?"

The patient responds: "During my junior year in high school, a month after my 16th birthday in April."

The interviewer records 16.1 in column (a) of the Phase 1 row. The interviewer then asks: "You were married at age 22. What month did you get married?"

The patient responds: "We got married the 4th of July weekend."

The interviewer records 22.3 in column (a) of the Phase 2 row. The interviewer subtracts one month to determine the age at the end of Phase 1 and records 22.2 in column (b) of the Phase 1 row.

Column (c): Average Quantity

QUESTION: How many drinks would you have on average per occasion (drinking day, day that you drank) during this phase?

Show the patient **CARD #7**. Record the average number of alcoholic drinks per day the patient consumed on those days that s/he drank.

- If patient reports abstinence during this Phase, record 00 in column (c) and skip to column (i). In column (i), circle 1 for "abstinent".

Column (d): Maximum Quantity

QUESTION: What is the most or maximum number of drinks you would have in any one day during this phase?

Record the maximum number of alcoholic drinks per day the patient consumed on those days that s/he drank.

- Note: This is the maximum number that the person actually drank, not an estimate of his/her potential capacity or average consumption. Therefore, the number in column (c) can never exceed the number in column (d).

Column (e): Frequency

QUESTION: How many days per month would you generally drink at this level during this phase? (i.e. average drinks)

Record the number of days per month that the patient drank during this Phase.

Column (f, g, h): Type

QUESTION: What type of beverage or beverages would you usually consume in an average month during this phase? Please tell me - out of 100%, what percent would be beer, what percent would be liquor, and what percent would be wine?

Record in percentages the type of alcohol that the patient drank during this Phase. This section must add up to 100%. Wine should include wine coolers and fortified wine.

Column (i): Style

QUESTION: How would you rate your usual style of drinking during an average month during this phase?

Show the patient **CARD # 8**. Code appropriately for the style that patient reports per month.

Column (j): Any Life Events that influenced drinking?

PHASE I: Did any of these important events occur during this period (this phase) that influenced you to begin drinking regularly?

(PROBE): Did this event influence/alter your drinking during this phase?

SUBSEQUENT PHASES: Did any of these important events occur during this period (this phase) that altered your usual drinking habits?

(PROBE): Did this event influence/alter your drinking during this phase?

Show the patient **CARD # 9**. It is important to probe the patient to report only the life events that influenced or altered drinking habits.

If the patient reports no life events that influenced or altered drinking habits, circle 2 for NO and skip to the next Phase.

If one or more life events are reported that influenced or altered drinking habits, circle 1 for YES. It may be helpful to circle the # next to the event in column (k) that are identified.

Column (k): Perception of effect on your life

QUESTION: What was your perception of this event? Would you say it was a positive (desirable), negative, (undesirable) or neutral (no) effect on your life?

Continue to show the patient **CARD # 9**. For each life event identified by the patient in column (j) record whether the patient considers the event to have had a positive (desirable), negative (undesirable) or neutral (no) effect on his/her life.

The patient's perception of this life event is defined as how they saw the event at the time it occurred. We know that they identified this event as influencing their drinking. The question asks how the event effected their life, in a positive way, a negative way, or a neutral way.

- Code 1 for positive effect, code 2 for negative effect, 3 for neutral effect.
- Code 4 if this type of event did not occur. Do not leave any spaces blank.

For example: A patient identifies his marriage as a life event that influenced his drinking during his Phase 2 (age 23.5 to 26.1). Although his marriage influenced him to drink more because his wife drank more than he was used to drinking, he perceived at that time that his marriage had a positive effect on his life.

Subsequent Phases (Row 2 – Row 10):

Starting with Row 2, the next distinct drinking Phase needs to be identified so that all the columns can be filled out.

In order to identify the next Phase, the interviewer needs to determine what events in the patient's life may have changed or altered her/his drinking habits. So in Row 2 through Row 10, the life events (question j & k) will be identified first, before the other columns (a-i) can be completed.

The transitional questions (below) allow the interviewer to end the current Phase and move on to the next Phase.

TRANSITIONAL QUESTION TO END CURRENT PHASE AND MOVE TO NEXT PHASE:

AT END OF PHASE I: We have just discussed your drinking habits at the point when you first began to drink regularly. Now I want you to think to when your drinking behavior was different in a significant way from this time. This could be the next 6 months or perhaps 2 or 5 years later. Can you think of any events in your life that may have changed or altered your drinking habits?

AT THE END OF SUBSEQUENT PHASES: Now I want you to think to when your drinking behavior was different in a significant way from this time. This could be the next 6 months or perhaps 2 or 5 years later. Can you think of any events in your life that may have changed or altered your drinking habits?

Continue to fill the table row-by-row, column-by-column. Each distinct Phase will be a different row. If a patient abstained for a period of time, that should be reported as a distinct Phase.

Establish age ranges for each Phase in chronological order, repeating the questions for quantity, frequency, type, style, and life events from the age of first regular drinking to the present.

When the patient has reached his current age, the form is complete.