

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The Alaska Screening Tool

What is the AST?

The Alaska Screening Tool (AST) is an instrument developed in collaboration with substance abuse and mental health care providers, the Alaska Mental Health Board, the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, and The Division of Behavioral Health. Having three distinct sections, the AST is designed to screen for substance abuse, mental illness, and traumatic brain injury (TBI). Two questions anchored within the substance abuse portion of the AST probe for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD).

It is important to note that screening and assessment are two separate and distinct processes: **Screening** is a process for evaluating the possible presence of a particular problem; **Assessment** is a process for defining the nature of that problem and developing specific treatment recommendations for addressing the problem.

How is it supposed to function?

The AST functions as a stand alone screening instrument with three distinct sections: substance abuse; mental health; and TBI. Each screening can produce multiple recommendations and result in more than one referral. For example, one screening has the potential to result in both a substance abuse and mental health referral. Additionally, the same screen may also identify possible indicators of Traumatic Brain Injury and / or indicators of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, requiring a referral. Dual Diagnosis is a calculated field which reports the number of individuals with screening results of identified indicators for both a substance abuse and mental health referral. For more information, context, and scoring of the Alaska Screening Tool please visit: <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dbh/AKAIMS/default.htm>

Who is expected to complete the AST?

All substance abuse and/or mental health grantees are required to administer and submit the AST as a condition of their grant award from the Division of Behavioral Health. The AST is completed by the provider with responses from the client and submitted to the Division of Behavioral Health via the Alaska Automated Information Management System (AK AIMS). The AST is completed during the screening process prior to the formal assessment process. Policies are being developed around when and how to use and administer the AST, and will be forthcoming during the first quarter of fiscal year 2006.

Why is it important to the Division?

The AST is an important tool for the Division of Behavioral Health, providers, and other stakeholders. The AST functions as a standardized state-wide screening instrument that provides a means of identifying the needs of individuals and families, such that appropriate referrals assist in the timely access of services. Further, over time the AST will assist the DBH and providers in identifying the population needs of each agency, providing useful data for program management of the service delivery system. The information from the AST will also serve to assist the state in federal reporting requirements.

Alaska Division of Behavioral Health

Policy & Planning- Research and Analysis

Alaska Screening Tool: Results by Provider

Date Range: SFY 2005

Context: Each screening can result in more than one referral and more than one screening result. For example, one screening has the potential to result in both a substance abuse and mental health referral. Additionally, the same screen may also result in both a positive Traumatic Brain Injury and a positive Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders screening result. Dual Diagnosis is a calculated field which reports the number of individuals screening positive for both a substance abuse and mental health referral. For more information and context on the Alaska Screening Tool please visit: <http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dbh/AKAIMS/default.htm>

Agency	Screenings	Referrals		Screening Results		
		Substance Abuse	Mental Health	TBI	FASD	Dual Diagnosis *
Access Alaska	24	18 75%	24 100%	16 67%	7 29%	18 75%
Akeela Inc	7	7 100%	7 100%	7 100%	1 14%	7 100%
Alaska Addiction Rehabilitation Services	26	26 100%	25 96%	5 19%	2 8%	25 96%
Alaska Family Services	631	537 85%	350 55%	85 13%	31 5%	324 51%
Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web	4	4 100%	4 100%	1 25%	1 25%	4 100%
Alaska Women's Resource Center	83	63 76%	56 67%	8 10%	2 2%	47 57%
Alaska Youth & Parent Foundation	1	1 100%	1 100%	0 0%	0 0%	1 100%
Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association Inc	64	50 78%	31 48%	4 6%	1 2%	27 42%
Assets Inc.	82	18 22%	78 95%	13 16%	8 10%	16 20%
Central Peninsula General Hospital	22	22 100%	22 100%	3 14%	3 14%	22 100%
Communities Organized for Health Options	14	13 93%	4 29%	1 7%	1 7%	4 29%
Cook Inlet Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse	111	102 92%	62 56%	9 8%	3 3%	59 53%
Cook Inlet Tribal Council	47	16 34%	17 36%	5 11%	5 11%	16 34%
Copper River Native Association	14	7 50%	13 93%	3 21%	4 29%	6 43%

Agency	Screenings	Referrals		Screening Results		
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Daybreak CMI	56	30 54%	54 96%	29 52%	8 14%	29 52%
Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.	3	3 100%	3 100%	1 33%	0 0%	3 100%
Fairbanks Native Association	436	360 83%	286 66%	66 15%	30 7%	266 61%
Fairbanks Resource Agency	1	0 0%	1 100%	1 100%	0 0%	0 0%
Family Centered Services of Alaska	90	46 51%	81 90%	6 7%	26 29%	44 49%
Gastineau Human Services	227	185 81%	105 46%	28 12%	10 4%	95 42%
Gateway Center For Human Services	5	5 100%	5 100%	0 0%	0 0%	5 100%
Hoonah Indian Association	10	8 80%	8 80%	0 0%	1 10%	7 70%
Hope Community Resources Inc.	8	3 38%	5 63%	0 0%	1 13%	3 38%
Iliuliuk Family and Health Services	123	47 38%	120 98%	1 1%	2 2%	45 37%
Interior AIDS Association	19	19 100%	19 100%	3 16%	3 16%	19 100%
Juneau Alliance for Mental Health Inc.	1	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Kenai Peninsula Care Center	2	2 100%	2 100%	1 50%	2 100%	2 100%
Kenaitze Indian Tribe	103	62 60%	93 90%	11 11%	13 13%	57 55%
Ketchikan Indian Community	129	114 88%	78 60%	19 15%	16 12%	77 60%
Kodiak Area Native Association	1	1 100%	1 100%	0 0%	0 0%	1 100%
Kodiak Council on Alcoholism	27	22 81%	12 44%	0 0%	1 4%	12 44%
Lynn Canal Human Resources	41	25 61%	33 80%	2 5%	5 12%	21 51%
Maniilaq Behavioral Health	116	96 83%	84 72%	12 10%	16 14%	70 60%

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NAMI Juneau/Polaris House	16	7 44%	11 69%	6 38%	1 6%	6 38%
Narcotic Drug Treatment Center Inc.	101	80 79%	83 82%	23 23%	8 8%	72 71%
North Slope Borough DHSS	41	31 76%	23 56%	6 15%	3 7%	20 49%
Norton Sound Health Corporation	241	168 70%	193 80%	20 8%	30 12%	140 58%
Petersburg Mental Health Services Inc.	82	52 63%	56 68%	2 2%	5 6%	36 44%
Providence Kodiak Island Counseling Center	307	100 33%	239 78%	29 9%	18 6%	88 29%
Providence Valdez Counseling Center	94	60 64%	64 68%	4 4%	5 5%	36 38%
Railbelt Mental Health & Addictions	59	41 69%	39 66%	4 7%	3 5%	28 47%
Salvation Army Booth Memorial	5	5 100%	5 100%	0 0%	1 20%	5 100%
Salvation Army Clitheroe Center	25	16 64%	14 56%	1 4%	0 0%	11 44%
Seaview Community Services	211	114 54%	144 68%	18 9%	11 5%	80 38%
SEARHC	190	177 93%	147 77%	21 11%	17 9%	136 72%
Sitka Counseling & Prevention Services	282	235 83%	180 64%	42 15%	20 7%	147 52%
Sound Alternatives	49	22 45%	38 78%	6 12%	2 4%	18 37%
Southcentral Foundation- Behavioral Services Div	1	0 0%	1 100%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Tanana Chiefs Conference	276	185 67%	213 77%	30 11%	21 8%	147 53%
The Arc of Anchorage	52	22 42%	48 92%	6 12%	10 19%	21 40%
Tok Area Counseling	19	14 74%	16 84%	3 16%	2 11%	11 58%
Volunteers of America	63	56 89%	44 70%	2 3%	4 6%	43 68%

Agency	Screenings	Referrals		Screening Results		
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Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation	18	16 89%	8 44%	1 6%	2 11%	8 44%
Yukon Flats Care Center	1	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Yukon Koyukuk Mental Health & Alcohol Program	122	100 82%	101 83%	10 8%	14 11%	83 68%
Totals Counts	4783	3413	3351	574	380	2468
Total Percentages		71%	70%	12%	8%	52%