



UNCOPE Questions to Family and Concerned Others to Screen for an Alcohol or Drug Abuse Problem



The UNCOPE screening test consists of six questions found in existing instruments and assorted research reports. This excellent screening test was first reported by Hoffmann and colleagues in 1999. The six questions provide a simple and quick means of identifying whether the person you are concerned about is at risk for abuse or dependence for alcohol and other drugs. Take the screening test and circle a “yes” or “no” at the end of each of the questions. Answer the questions to the best of your knowledge. You may find it interesting, comforting and necessary to have others in your support network take this screening test as well. It almost always will result in interesting discussion among those who take it because each person may have observed different drinking and drug use behaviors over the past year. The scoring of the screening test is found at the end of the six questions.

U “In the past year, have you ever observed the individual you are concerned about drinking or **using** drugs more than he/she meant to?”

Or “Have you noticed the person you are concerned about spending more time drinking or **using** than he/she intended to?”

Yes

No

N “Have you ever seen the individual you are concerned about **neglecting** some of his/her usual responsibilities because of using alcohol or drugs?”

Yes

No

C “Have you seen the individual you are concerned about wanting or needing to **cut down** on his/her drinking or drug use in the last year?”

Yes

No

O “Have you or anyone else **objected** to the drinking or drug use of the individual you are concerned about?”

Yes

No

P “Have you ever found the individual you are concerned about **preoccupied** with wanting to use alcohol or drugs?”
Or, “Have you found the individual you are concerned about thinking and talking a lot about drinking or using?”

Yes

No

E “Have you ever observed or been worried that the individual you are concerned about is using alcohol or drugs to relieve **emotional discomfort**, such as sadness, anger, or boredom?”

Yes

No

Two positive responses indicate a strong likelihood of an alcohol and/or drug abuse problem.

Four or more positive responses strongly indicate an alcohol and/or drug dependence problem.