Alcohol-Avoidance Algorithm for Adolescents: Matching Prevention Services with Risk and Protective Factor Needs

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How useful are self-report drug use and risk and protective factor survey data? How well does the presence of risk factors predict alcohol use?

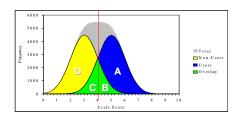
Risk & protective factors. such as early problem behavior or parental attachment, are variables that can partially predict drug & alcohol use

(e.g., Hawkins, Catalano, & Miller, 1992)

Possible to reduce drug & alcohol use by reducing or eliminating risk factors and boosting protective factors

Surveyed 96,000 Alabama public school students using Communities That Care Instrument

- **♦** Demographics
- Substance Use
- Delinquent / Problem Behaviors
- ♦ Risk / Protective Factors



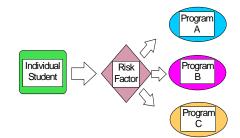
Sooro >	Alcohol User	Alcohol Nonuser		
Score > Cutoff	A	В		
Score =< Cutoff	C	D		

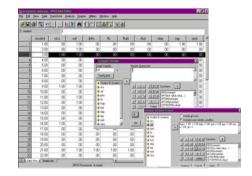
Determined cutoff points for risk & protective factors, minimizing overlap between users & nonusers

- Sensitivity = proportion of alcohol users who have risk factor (A/A+C)
- ♦ Specificity = proportion of alcohol nonusers who do not have risk factor (D / B+D)
- ♦ Used point at which sensitivity and specificity scores intersected as cutoff point
- If student scores above cutoff point on risk factor, has risk factor and is "at risk'



Compiled table of CSAP model and effective programs and best practices that address risk factors for drug and alcohol use





Counties can aggregate the number of programs recommended for their locality and decide which should be implemented

Factors to consider include scope of program (e.g., universal vs. selective), age & cultural appropriateness, & cost

d	_										
ı		A	В	C	U	E		G	H		J
	1		# Across Ages	# All Stars	# ATLAS	# BSFT	# Bry's	# CASASTART	#CLFC	# CMCA	# FAS
ı	2	County Name									
ı	3	Lightning County	24800	5422	1254	5885	3215	1223	678	3154	12
ı	4	Rainbow County	7856	23125	1235	745	8543	5411	875	5325	45
	5	Sunshine County	7546	823	9852	8333	9532	5533	325	823	8
	6	Sky County	8412	5241	2356	553	587	233	254	633	36
ı	7	Dewdrop County	764	896	751	326	456	235	96	145	13
ı	8										