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| **Domain:** | Substance Use-related Co-morbidities and Health-related Outcomes |
| **Measure:** | Victimization Screener |
| **Definition:** | A screener to gather information on the types of victimization a respondent has experienced in his or her lifetime. |
| **Purpose:** | The purpose of this measure is to collect data on the number of types of victimization experienced by a respondent in his or her lifetime (including physical, emotional, and sexual abuse); the number of traumagenic factors involved in the victimization; and the number of types of future victimization feared by the respondent. |
| **Essential PhenX Measures:** | Current Age Gender |
| **Related PhenX Measures:** | Exposures to Violence |
| **Collections:** | Interpersonal Substance Use-related Co-morbidities and Health-related Outcomes |
| **Keywords:** | Global Appraisal of Individual Needs, GAIN, Victimization, Physical abuse, Sexual abuse, Emotional abuse, SAA, Substance Use-related Co-morbidities and Health-related Outcomes |

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| **Protocol Release Date:** | February 24, 2012 |
| **PhenX Protocol Name:** | Victimization Screener |
| **Protocol Name from Source:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |
| **Description:** | The General Victimization Scale (GVS) is a 15-item screener answered on a yes/no scale. The first section contains four items that ask about the occurrence of lifetime abusive events: being attacked with a weapon, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse. Respondents who endorse at least one of the abusive events also complete items in the second section of the scale, composed of seven items covering traumagenic factors. The third section contains four items about current fears of future abuse. All respondents—regardless of whether or not they report any lifetime traumatic events—answer these last four items. |
| **Specific Instructions:** | While victimization is common and clinically very important, it can be stigmatizing, raise challenges for both the interviewer and respondent, and invoke mandated reporting requirements. Thus, the purpose of collecting this information, protections/safeguards, and any mandated reporting requirements related to collecting this information should be disclosed in the informed consent process prior to collecting this measure. |
| **Protocol:** | The next questions are about things that other people may have done to you.  Please answer the next questions using yes or no.  **Has anyone ever:**  a. Attacked you with a gun, knife, stick, bottle, or other weapon?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  b. Hurt you by striking or beating you to the point that you had bruises, cuts, or broken bones or otherwise physically abused you?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  c. Pressured or forced you to participate in sexual acts against your will, including your regular sexual partner, a family member, or friend?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  d. Abused you emotionally; that is, did or said things to make you feel very bad about yourself or your life?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  e. About how old were you the first time any of these things happened to you?  ">\_\_">\_\_"> Age  Is e under 18?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  **Did any of the previous things happen:**  f. Several times or over a long period of time?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  g. With more than one person involved in hurting you?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  h. Where one or more of the people involved was a family member, close family friend, professional, or someone else you had trusted?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  j. Where you were afraid for your life or that you might be seriously injured?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  k. And result in oral, vaginal, or anal sex?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  m. And people you told did not believe or help you?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  **Are you currently worried that someone might . . .**  n. Attack you with a gun, knife, stick, bottle, or other weapon?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  p. Hurt you by striking or beating or otherwise physically abuse you?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  q. Pressure or force you to participate in sexual acts against your will?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  r. Abuse you emotionally?  [ ] 1 Yes  [ ] 0 No  **Scoring:**  The total score is simply the sum of "yes" responses plus 1 if age of first victimization is under age 18. This yields a score range of 0-15. The GVS total score is triaged into three severity groups: 0 = low for no reported history of victimization, 1-3 = moderate severity, and 4-15 = high severity. |
| **Selection Rationale:** | The General Victimization Scale (GVS) covers important lifetime abusive events. Worries about future victimization are also a key traumatic factor and are a part of the scale (Titus et al., 2003). GVS has had good internal consistency in large samples of adolescents (*n* = 19,226, alpha = 0.84) and adults (*n* = 6,913, alpha = 0.86) (GAIN Coordinating Center, 2011). In a comparison of respondents with low victimization rates on GVS to those in the high group, the high group is significantly more likely to present to substance abuse treatment with 5 or more of 12 common diagnoses/problems (15% vs. 71%, OR = 13.9) (Modisette et al., 2010). |
| **Source:** | Dennis, M. L., Titus, J. C., White, M., Unsicker, J., & Hodgkins, D. (2003). *Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN): Administration guide for the GAIN and related measures. Version 5.* Bloomington, IL: Chestnut Health Systems.  Titus, J. C., Dennis, M. L., White, W. L., Scott, C. K., & Funk, R. R. (2003). Gender differences in victimization severity and outcomes among adolescents treated for substance abuse. *Journal of Child Maltreatment*, *8*(1), 19-35. |
| **Life Stage:** | Adolescent Adult Senior Pregnancy |
| **Language of source:** | English, Spanish |
| **Participant:** | Adolescents and adults aged 12 years or older |
| **Personnel and Training Required:** | Interviewer must be trained and found competent to conduct personal interviews with individuals from the general population. The interviewer should be trained to prompt respondents further if a "don’t know" response is provided. |
| **Equipment Needs:** | None |
| **Standards:** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Standard** | **Name** | **ID** | **Source** | | Common Data Element (CDE) | Person Victimization Questionnaire Assessment Score | 3376115 | [CDE Browser](https://cdebrowser.nci.nih.gov/CDEBrowser/search?elementDetails=9&FirstTimer=0&PageId=ElementDetailsGroup&publicId=3376115&version=1.0) | |
| **General references:** | Conrad, K. J., Conrad, K. M., Dennis, M. L., Riley, B. B., & Funk, R. R. (2009). *Validation of the HIV Scale to the Rasch Measurement Model, GAIN Methods Report 1.1.* Chicago, IL: Chestnut Health Systems.  Dennis, M. L. (2004). Traumatic victimization of adolescents presenting for substance abuse treatment: Time to stop ignoring the elephant in our counseling rooms. *Counselor*, *5*(2), 36-40.  Funk, R. R., McDermeit, M., Godley, S. H., & Adams, L. (2003). Maltreatment issues by level of adolescent substance abuse treatment: The extent of the problem at intake and relationship to early outcomes. *Journal of Child Maltreatment*, *8*(1), 36-45.  GAIN Coordinating Center. (2011). NORMS including alpha, mean, N, sd, ICC for Adolescents (1217), Young Adults (1825), and Adults (18+) by gender race and age using the CSAT 2010 SA Dataset (excluding ATM & CYT) [Electronic version]. Normal, IL: Chestnut Health Systems.  Modisette, K., Ihnes, P., Ives, M., & Dennis, M. (2010). *Slides on all Grantees in the 2009 SAMHSA/CSAT Summary Analytic File.* Normal, IL: Chestnut Health Systems.  Titus, J. C. (2009). Gender differences in victimization among youths with and without hearing loss admitted to substance abuse treatment. *Journal of the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association*, *43*(1), 7-33.  Titus, J. C. (2010). The nature of victimization among youths with hearing loss in substance abuse treatment. *American Annals of the Deaf*, *5*(1), 19-30. |
| **Mode of Administration:** | Self-administered or interviewer-administered questionnaire |
| **Derived Variables:** | None |
| **Requirements:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Requirement Category** | **Required** | | Major equipment | No | | Specialized training | No | | Specialized requirements for biospecimen collection | No | | Average time of greater than 15 minutes in an unaffected individual | No | |
| **Process and Review:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |