

RAPS: Rapid Alcohol Problems Screen

Brief screening for alcohol dependence and harmful drinking

"A few questions can help the doctor or nurse determine who may have a drinking problem."

- ✓ The RAPS is a brief instrument.
- ✓ There is no weighting, adding or scoring of responses.
- ✓ A positive response on any item qualifies as being positive on the RAPS.
- ✓ The first question identifies over 80% of those meeting the criteria for alcohol dependence.

What is RAPS?

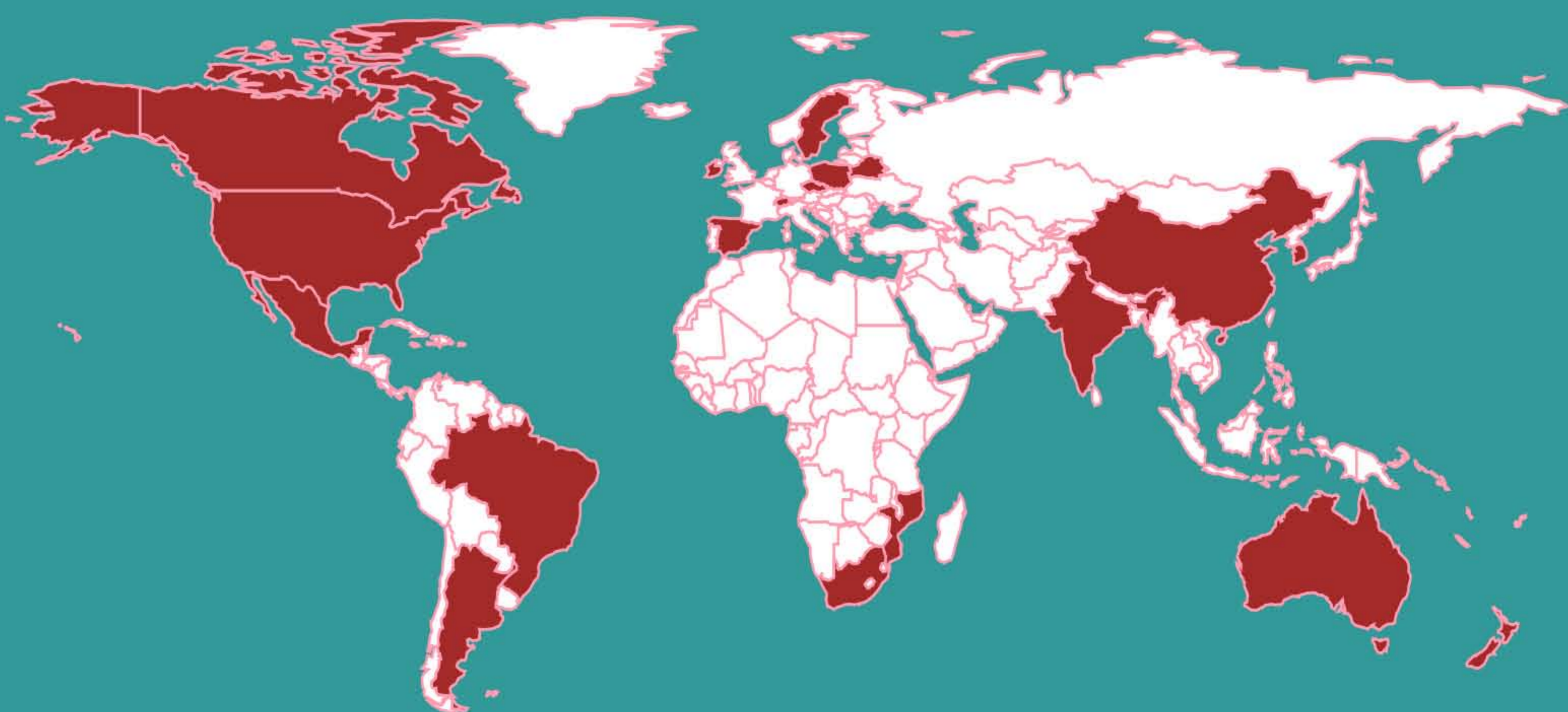
The Rapid Alcohol Problems Screen (RAPS) is a five-item instrument derived from other screens designed to maximize sensitivity while maintaining good specificity. The RAPS4, which excludes a question, was found to perform just as well as RAPS yet was shorter and easier to implement.



When two quantity-frequency (QF) questions (drinking five or more drinks on an occasion and drinking as often as once a month) were added to the RAPS4, the RAPS4-QF performed significantly better for alcohol abuse and appeared to be most sensitive for alcohol abuse among both males and females reporting emergency-room (ER) use.

"Busy clinicians need reliable and short screening tests."

Where has it been tested?



**19 Countries +
46 Emergency Rooms**

Take the Test

	YES	NO
During the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking? (Remorse)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
During the last year has a friend or a family member ever told you about things you said or did while you were drinking that you could not remember? (Amnesia)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
During the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of drinking? (Perform)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you sometime take a drink when you first get up in the morning? (Starter)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
During the last year have you lost friends or girlfriends or boyfriends because of drinking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
During the last year have you had 5 or more drinks on at least one occasion? (Quantity)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
During the last year do you drink as often as once a month? (Frequency)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cherpitel, C.J., Screening for alcohol problems in the U.S. general population: comparison of the CAGE, RAPS4, and RAPS4-QF by gender, ethnicity, and service utilization. *Rapid Alcohol Problems Screen. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 26:1686-1691, 2002; Cherpitel, C. J. (2000). A brief screening instrument for problem drinking in the emergency room: the RAPS4. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol* 61(3): 447-449.