**OPIOID OVERDOSE ATTITUDES SCALE (OOAS): INSTRUCTIONS**

**THE OPIOID OVERDOSE ATTITUDES SCALE (OOAS)**

The OOAS is a self-administered questionnaire which aims to evaluate attitudes towards managing an opioid overdose among addiction professionals, patients and their family members. It takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.

The OOAS has 28 items grouped into three sub-scales relating to overdose management: Competence (self-perceived ability to manage an overdose), Concerns (concerns on dealing with an overdose) and Readiness (willingness to intervene in an overdose situation).

- Competence 10 items: 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 24, 26
- Concerns 8 items: 4, 6, 7, 15, 16, 18, 23, 25
- Readiness 10 items: 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19, 22, 27, 28

**PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES**

The OOAS was adapted from the structure of the Drug and Drug Problem Perception Questionnaire (Watson et al., 2007). Its psychometric properties are described in Williams et al 2013. The scale has proved to be internally reliable (alpha coefficient 0.90) and robust over time (Intra-Class Correlations= 0.82). Competence, concerns and readiness items’ scores fall in the fair-to-excellent range for test-retest reliability (ICC=0.92, 0.55 and 0.65, respectively).

The scale has also proven to have face, content and construct validity. Content validity was tested by comparing the scores of addiction professionals and family members of opioid users. Professionals reported significantly higher scores than family members. Concurrent validity was tested by correlating the OOAS score and the General Self-efficacy Scale, but no association was found.

**SCORING**

The OOAS is scored continuously using a 5-point Likert scale: completely disagree (1 point), disagree (2 points), unsure (3 points), agree (4 points) and completely agree (5 points).

**Reverse negative items:**

The following negative items need to be reversed before computing the total of scale points: 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25. You can use the 'record into same variables'
function of SPSS. Recode these items as: completely disagree (5 point), disagree (4 points), unsure (3 points), agree (2 points) and completely agree (1 points).

**Totals Scores:**

Once negative items have been reversed, add all items’ points. The total scale points can range from 28 to 140 points.

**Sub-scores**

- Competence: add the points of the following items: 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21, 24, 26
- Concerns items: add the points of the following items: 4, 6, 7, 15, 16, 18, 23, 25
- Readiness items: add the points of the following items: 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19, 22, 27, 28

SPSS data-base and syntaxes can be obtained from the author (please see contact details below).

**DATA**

The table below presents OOAS values that have been recorded for drug users and family members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Family members (n=73)</th>
<th>Drug Users (n=89)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean (SD)</td>
<td>Mean (SD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pre-training</td>
<td>Immediately post-training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total OOAS</td>
<td>97.99 (±12.7)</td>
<td>118.06 (±12.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competence</td>
<td>28.28 (±7.1)</td>
<td>41.61 (±4.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerns</td>
<td>28.51 (±6.2)</td>
<td>32.71 (±6.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readiness</td>
<td>41.21 (±4.9)</td>
<td>43.73 (±4.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data is available in Anna Williams (2011) PhD thesis and it was published in Williams et al (2013, 2014):


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Further information can be found on:
http://www.kcl.ac.uk/ioppn/depts/addictions/research/drugs/Naloxone/Resources.aspx