

Questions on Parental Health
Grade 10/Year 11
Fast Track Project Technical Report
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Citation

Instrument

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group. (2001). Questions on Parental Health. Available: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Report

Godwin, J. and J. Klaric. (2004) Questions on Parental Health (Fast Track Project Technical Report) [On-line]. Available: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Sources

Raw: *p11ae*

Scored: *qph11*

I. Scale Description

Questions on Parental Health is a 4-item questionnaire developed by the Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group (CPPRG) for Fast Track to assess general health, specific medical conditions, and common substance use (smoking and alcohol consumption) among parents/caretakers. Caretakers assess their general health on a 5-point scale (excellent=1, very good=2, good=3, fair=4, poor=5). Caretakers who rate their health as either fair or poor are asked to verbally describe their medical conditions. Caretakers are also asked about the frequency with which they consume alcohol (never=1, once/month=2, 2 or 3 times/month=3, once or twice/week=4, 3-5 times/week=5, and nearly every day=6). If a caregiver reports any alcohol use, the caretakers is asked about the frequency of binge drinking in the last month, defined as 5 or more drinks in one session (never=1, once=2, twice=3, three times=4; four times=5, five or more times=6). All caretakers are then asked about their current smoking habits (0=Does not smoke, 1=Smokes).

II. Report Sample

This report was conducted using the control (n=155) and normative (n=387, N=463 with overlap) samples from cohort 1 in the eleventh year of the study. Overall, 109 children were missing the whole measure. Forty respondents were missing from the control sample (6 from Durham, 12 from Nashville, 13 from Pennsylvania, and 9 from Washington) and 94 respondents were missing from the normative sample (15 from Durham, 26 from Nashville, 29 from Pennsylvania, and 24 from Washington).

III. Scaling

Four scales were created from the available items. Two scales are just renamed versions of existing items. *QPH11GEN* is the renamed version of item 6 capturing general health, while *QPH11SMK* is the renamed version of item 10 capturing whether the caregiver currently smokes. Two additional scales are created by collapsing responses to existing items into fewer categories. *QPH11AFQ*, based on item 8, creates 3 levels of alcohol use: Never (1), 1-3 times per month (2), and once per week or more (3). *QPH11FQB*, based on item 8 and 9, creates 3 levels of binge drinking: Never, if item 6 equals never or item 7 equals never (1), 1-3 times per month (2), and 4 or more times per month (3).

IV. Differences Between Groups

An independent *t*-test was conducted to determine whether caretakers in the normative sample ($n=239$) differed in general health from caretakers in the control sample ($n=115$). Results from a folded *F* test indicated that variances in the two samples were homogenous; during grade 10, normative and control samples did not significantly differ in self-reported general health.

Comparison of Means for Normative and Control for Continuous Scales and Items								
Variable	Label	Normative		Control		DF	t Value	Pr > t
		Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev			
QPH11GEN	General Health	2.47	1.00	2.63	1.04	352	1.33	0.1841

Differences in the frequency of alcohol use, binge drinking, smoking between the normative and control samples were assessed using Chi Square tests of independence.

No differences between non-overlapping normative and control samples were observed in frequency of drinking episodes ($\chi^2 (2, N=354) = 2.48, p=0.289$). In addition, the frequency of binge drinking did not differ between normative and control samples ($\chi^2 (2, N=354) = 1.13, p=0.567$).

QPH11AFQ: Frequency of Alcohol Consumption			
Frequency Col Pct	Control	Normative	Total
Never	56 48.70	98 41.00	154
1-3 Times per Month	42 36.52	108 45.19	150
Once per Week or More	17 14.78	33 13.81	50
Total	115	239	354

QPH11FQB: Frequency of Binge Drinking			
Frequency Col Pct	Control	Normative	Total
Never	93 80.87	192 80.33	285
1-3 Times per Month	20 17.39	38 15.90	58
4 or More Times per Month	2 1.74	9 3.77	11
Total	115	239	354

A significant difference in self-reported smoking patterns was observed; more caretakers in the control sample reported smoking than those in the normative sample ($\chi^2(1, N=354)= 7.17, p=0.0074$).

QPH11SMK: Currently Smoke			
Frequency Col Pct	Control	Normative	Total
No	59 51.30	158 66.11	217
Yes	56 48.70	81 33.89	137
Total	115	239	354

V. Recommendations for Use

The general health of caretakers did not differ between control and normative samples. Moreover, the number of caretakers using alcoholic substances and the type of alcoholic consumption did not differ. The samples did differ in the frequency of reported smoking.

VI. Item Means

Descriptive Statistics - Normative Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
P11AE6	How is your general physical health?	293	2.51	1.00	1.00	5.00
P11AE8	How often do you drink alcohol?	293	2.00	1.15	1.00	6.00
P11AE9	How often in the last month have you had five or more drinks?	167	1.77	1.30	1.00	6.00
P11AE10	Do you smoke?	293	0.38	0.49	0.00	1.00

Descriptive Statistics - High Risk Control Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
P11AE6	How is your general physical health?	115	2.63	1.04	1.00	5.00
P11AE8	How often do you drink alcohol?	115	1.93	1.11	1.00	5.00
P11AE9	How often in the last month have you had five or more drinks?	59	1.68	1.11	1.00	6.00
P11AE10	Do you smoke?	115	0.49	0.50	0.00	1.00

VII. Item Correlations

Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations				
	P11AE6	P11AE8	P11AE9	P11AE10
P11AE6 How is your general physical health?	1.000 354	-0.090 0.090 354	0.123 0.082 200	0.162 0.002 354
P11AE8 How often do you drink alcohol?	-0.090 0.090 354	1.000 354	0.540 0.000 200	0.140 0.008 354
P11AE9 How often in the last month have you had five or more drinks?	0.123 0.082 200	0.540 0.000 200	1.000 200	0.158 0.025 200
P11AE10 Do you smoke?	0.162 0.002 354	0.140 0.008 354	0.158 0.025 200	1.000 354

Appendix – SAS Scoring Program
(See Instrument Summary)