

UNC CFAR Social and Behavioral Science Research Core SABI Database

INSTRUMENT TITLE: HIV-Antibody Testing Attitude Scale (HTAS)

SOURCE ARTICLE: Boshamer, C. B & Bruce, K. E. (1999). A Scale to Measure Attitudes about HIV-antibody Testing: Development and Psychometric Validation. *AIDS Education and Prevention*, 11 (5), 400-413.

RESPONSE OPTIONS:

For each of the 32 items, respondents indicate on a 5-point Likert scale if they strongly agree, agree, are neutral, disagree or strongly disagree.

Responses are scored such that strong agreement with items that are facilitators for HIV testing (Items 2, 3, 5, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27, 29, 31, and 32) is given a “5” and strong disagreement is given a “1”.

Reverse scoring is used for barrier items (Items 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 23, 25, 26, 28, and 30). Item scores are summed, and higher scores indicate a more favorable attitude toward HIV-antibody testing. The total scores may be standardized to a 0 (con) to 100 (pro) scale to facilitate interpretation using the equation:

$$25 (\Sigma x - N)/N,$$

where Σx = the sum of the scores and N = the number of items on the HTAS (or the number of items answered).

SURVEY ITEMS: (Items followed by ^a are reverse scored.)

1. HIV-antibody testing is not really confidential. ^a
2. HIV test information is kept very confidential by the medical staff who do the testing.
3. My family would support me if I decided to be tested for HIV.
4. I would not want anyone to know if I got an HIV test. ^a
5. My friends would not look down on me if I were tested for HIV.
6. Anyone who is tested for HIV is disgusting. ^a

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7. I would be afraid to get an HIV test because people who test positive cannot get health insurance.^a
8. People assume that everyone who is tested for HIV is infected with HIV.^a
9. My parents would be upset if they knew I was planning to get tested for HIV.^a
10. Admitting that you should be tested for HIV means that you have engaged in immoral behavior.^a
11. My friends would support my decision to get an HIV test.
12. I am afraid that if I were tested for HIV, my name would go into public records.^a
13. HIV tests give accurate results.
14. Anyone who is tested for HIV is dirty.^a
15. It would be embarrassing to get tested for HIV.^a
16. I would not consider getting an HIV test because I would be asked about things I have done that could get me in trouble.^a
17. I can talk to my friends about making medical decisions.
18. I would be comfortable talking to an HIV counselor about personal behaviors that place me at risk for HIV infection.
19. People would assume I have HIV if I decided to get tested.^a
20. I could talk to my friends about making the decision to get an HIV test.
21. My friends would look down on me if I were tested for HIV.
22. My friends would not treat me any differently in I were tested for HIV.

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23. I am afraid someone would find out I was tested for HIV. ^a
24. Anyone who is tested for HIV is smart.
25. I would be embarrassed if my friends that out I had decided to have an HIV test. ^a
26. I would not get tested for HIV because I would be asked information that was too personal. ^a
27. I trust the HIV test counselors and nurses to keep my information confidential.
28. I do not have time to get an HIV test. ^a
29. It would not bother me if someone I know sees me going to get an HIV test.
30. My friends would treat me badly if I were tested for HIV. ^a
31. I could easily discuss HIV-antibody testing with my family.
32. My job would be in danger if my boss found out I was tested for HIV.

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