

Full AUDIT Tool Results 1

Once an individual's risk has been identified, the next course of action is decided:

AUDIT score 0: **Abstainer** - no action is required for this group unless the individual is abstinent because this was the only solution to an existing alcohol problem. In this case, the practitioner might consider congratulating the patient on successful maintenance of abstinence.

AUDIT score 1-7: **Lower risk** - patients in this group should be given positive reinforcement where appropriate and advised that they are unlikely to experience alcohol-related problems as a result. This reinforcement might be helped by giving information on units and the sensible drinking message.

AUDIT score 8-15: **Increasing risk** - patients in this group should be offered Brief Advice. Individuals who have previously had Brief Advice and are still scoring in the increasing risk range could be given Extended Intervention by a competent practitioner (this is not covered in detail in this module) or referred on.

AUDIT score 16-19: **Higher risk** - patients scoring in this group should be offered Brief Advice. Individuals in this range who have previously had Brief Advice and who are still scoring in the higher risk range could be given Extended Intervention by a competent practitioner (this is not covered by this module) or referred on.

AUDIT score 20-40: **Possible dependence** - patients scoring 20+ on the AUDIT should be considered for referral to an appropriate service for treatment for alcohol dependence unless adequate resources exist in the primary care setting to offer this treatment.

