

Appendix A. Characteristics of the Study Sample, Rates of Alcohol Screening, and the Screening Prevalence of Alcohol Misuse at Each Network Based on Medical Record Reviews and Each Network's Prevalence of Alcohol Misuse (AUDIT-C \geq 5) Based on SHEP Surveys

Network	Age* (years) %				Race*					Women* %	Screening Rate† %	Prevalence of Alcohol Misuse (AUDIT-C \geq 5) %	
	<50	50-59	60-69	\geq 70	Black	White	Hispanic	Other	Missing			Screening Prevalence from EPRP Medical Record Reviews‡	SHEP Survey 2007-2008§
A	19.3	27.6	30.4	22.8	5.7	38.3	0.4	0.1	55.5	19.9	98.0	7.9	11.2
B	19.9	29.4	30.3	20.4	12.0	27.0	0.3	0.2	60.6	22.3	98.7	4.9	11.4
C	15.3	21.9	27.6	35.2	12.6	34.9	5.2	0.3	47.0	15.0	97.9	4.6	11.6
D	18.7	25.0	27.9	28.4	2.3	36.2	0.2	0.9	60.3	19.0	97.9	9.1	13.5
E	21.1	29.0	31.1	18.7	2.1	30.3	0.6	0.7	66.4	21.1	97.7	7.8	14.0
F	19.1	26.7	30.5	23.6	8.3	32.9	0.3	0.1	58.4	18.7	97.7	7.1	13.6
G	18.3	27.0	32.0	22.7	6.9	38.2	0.2	0.1	54.5	18.8	96.9	5.5	10.4
H	19.4	28.8	30.0	21.8	7.8	34.4	0.2	0.0	57.5	19.2	98.4	7.5	12.9
I	18.1	26.5	31.3	24.2	6.5	23.8	3.4	0.8	65.5	20.8	96.4	6.8	13.6
J	16.7	24.1	30.1	29.1	2.5	41.5	0.8	0.1	55.0	17.3	98.4	7.3	13.3
K	19.2	25.6	30.3	24.9	1.3	38.8	2.5	0.4	57.0	19.4	97.0	7.4	13.2
L	21.8	29.7	29.1	19.3	17.5	23.4	0.2	0.1	58.8	22.4	97.1	5.5	12.5
M	16.5	22.4	30.2	31.0	6.4	36.0	0.3	0.0	57.2	17.5	98.5	6.6	12.6
N	22.5	27.7	29.7	20.1	8.2	31.1	7.0	0.1	53.6	23.2	98.1	7.0	15.2
O	16.6	26.8	31.7	24.9	4.6	26.9	2.5	3.5	62.5	20.3	98.1	6.9	15.3
P	19.0	28.8	31.3	20.9	12.5	31.4	0.7	0.3	55.0	22.0	97.7	6.0	12.7
Q	18.8	24.4	30.0	26.9	9.5	29.6	0.6	0.2	60.0	17.9	98.3	9.3	16.7
R	19.0	25.3	29.7	25.9	5.1	44.8	0.4	0.1	49.6	16.7	98.4	8.4	14.8
S	18.5	27.8	26.6	27.0	19.9	25.3	0.5	0.3	54.0	22.0	98.1	4.8	12.3
T	17.8	25.2	31.7	25.2	2.3	30.3	7.3	0.8	59.3	20.7	95.9	7.2	14.4
U	18.1	25.0	29.3	27.6	5.3	24.9	12.1	0.1	57.7	21.6	98.5	6.5	15.1

Legend. * The proportion of patients in the study sample at each network who were in each demographic group. Women were oversampled by the VA External Peer Review Program (EPRP); therefore, the sample used for this study includes more women than VA outpatient samples in general.

† The proportion of patients in the study sample at each network who had alcohol screening with the AUDIT-C documented in their medical records in the prior year, based on EPRP medical record reviews.

‡ The proportion of patients in the study sample at each network with AUDIT-C \geq 5 documented in the medical record based on EPRP medical record reviews.

§ The proportion of patients who returned the Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients (SHEP) in 2007-8 with AUDIT-C \geq 5 at each network. Note that these survey data are therefore based on a different sample of patients from those included in this evaluation of quality indicators for follow-up for alcohol misuse.

Appendix B. Two Adjusted Quality Indicators of Follow-up for Alcohol Misuse Across the 21 VA Networks

Network	Adjusted Quality Indicators of Follow-up for Alcohol Misuse [‡]				
	Positive-screen-based [§]		Population-based [†]		Per 100,000 Screened
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI	
C	65.2	55.5-75.0	2.6	2.1-3.0	2550
S	62.5	54.0-71.1	2.4	1.9-3.0	2437
B	70.4	61.0-79.8	2.6	2.0-3.3	2608
G	54.3	33.5-75.2	2.2	1.5-3.0	2228
L	49.2	39.8-58.7	2.0	1.6-2.4	1971
P	56.6	47.6-65.6	2.6	2.1-3.1	2596
U	59.2	49.5-68.9	3.1	2.4-3.9	3148
M	63.9	57.8-70.0	3.5	2.9-4.2	3546
I	51.4	41.8-61.0	2.6	2.1-3.2	2646
O	53.3	45.3-61.4	2.9	2.4-3.4	2915
N	64.9	51.8-78.0	3.5	1.8-5.1	3458
F	62.4	56.8-68.0	3.4	2.6-4.1	3362
T	48.1	36.1-60.1	2.7	1.9-3.5	2699
J	55.8	51.6-60.0	3.3	2.8-3.9	3319
K	58.1	51.0-65.2	3.3	2.5-4.2	3330
H	69.3	64.4-74.2	3.9	3.4-4.4	3923
E	55.0	45.4-64.6	3.1	2.0-4.2	3080
A	46.5	38.5-54.5	2.8	2.2-3.4	2791
R	65.5	56.6-74.3	4.3	2.6-6.0	4294
D	48.4	41.6-55.1	3.5	2.6-4.4	3517
Q	55.4	45.7-65.2	4.1	2.9-5.2	4052

Appendix B Legend: Networks were labeled (A-U) by letters in non-numeric order consistent with a previous report,(15) and ordered based on the screening prevalence of alcohol misuse—documented positive screens (AUDIT-C \geq 5)—in the study sample based on medical record reviews conducted by the External Peer Review Program (EPRP).

* The proportion of patients who screened positive for alcohol misuse on the AUDIT-C (\geq 5 points) based on EPRP medical record reviews.

§ Positive-screen-based quality indicator: the proportion of patients with alcohol misuse (AUDIT-C \geq 5) who had follow-up documented based on EPRP medical record reviews.

† Population-based quality indicator: the proportion and number per 100,000 of patients eligible for screening and follow-up who had alcohol misuse identified (AUDIT-C \geq 5) and follow-up documented based on EPRP medical record reviews.

‡ Adjustment included age, gender, race (from national VA administrative data) and the facility prevalence of alcohol misuse (AUDIT-C \geq 5), estimated from the VA Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients.

Appendix C

Lower-numbered ranks reflect higher performance (1=highest performance). Adjustment included age, gender, race (from national VA administrative data) and the facility prevalence of alcohol misuse (AUDIT-C ≤ 5), estimated from the VA Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients.

Adjusted Positive-screen-based Quality Indicator			Adjusted Population-based Quality Indicator		
Rank	Network	%	%	Network	Rank
1	B	70.4	4.3	R	1
2	H	69.3	4.1	Q	2
3	R	65.5	3.9	H	3
4	C	65.2	3.5	M	4
5	N	64.9	3.5	D	5
6	M	63.9	3.5	N	6
7	S	62.5	3.4	F	7
8	F	62.4	3.3	K	8
9	U	59.2	3.3	J	9
10	K	58.1	3.1	U	10
11	P	56.6	3.1	E	11
12	J	55.8	2.9	O	12
13	Q	55.4	2.8	A	13
14	E	55.0	2.7	T	14
15	G	54.3	2.6	I	15
16	O	53.3	2.6	B	16
17	I	51.4	2.6	P	17
18	L	49.2	2.6	C	18
19	D	48.4	2.4	S	19
20	T	48.1	2.2	G	20
21	A	46.5	2.0	L	21

————— Over 7 ranks higher on adjusted population-based quality indicator

----- Over 7 ranks higher on adjusted positive-screen-based quality indicator

Appendix D. Differences in the Adjusted Screening Prevalence of Alcohol Misuse Documented in Medical Records Across Groups of Networks Based on Differences in Ranks on the Two *Adjusted*[†] Quality Indicators of Follow-up for Alcohol Misuse.

Six Groups of Networks Based on Differences in Rank on the Adjusted[†] Quality Indicators of Follow-up for Alcohol Misuse

Differences in Ranks (Networks)	Perform Better on Positive-Screen-based Adjusted Quality Indicator ←						Perform Better on Population-based Adjusted Quality Indicator →					
	15 to 12 Ranks (B,C,S)		6 to 5 Ranks (P,G)		3 to 1 Ranks (H,L,N,U)		-1 to -2 Ranks (F,I,K,M,R)		-3 to -6 Ranks (E,J,O,T)		-8 to -14 Ranks (A,D,Q)	
	%	95%CI	%	95%CI	%	95%CI	%	95%CI	%	95%CI	%	95%CI
Mean Screening Prevalence of Alcohol Misuse*	4.1	3.6-4.5	4.8	4.4-5.2	5.3	4.8-5.7	6.0	5.5-6.5	6.0	5.5-6.5	7.4	6.8-8.0

Legend Appendix D. Positive values of differences in rank indicate higher performance on the adjusted positive-screen-based quality indicator; negative values indicate higher performance on adjusted population-based quality indicator.

* The proportion of patients who screened positive for alcohol misuse on the AUDIT-C (≥ 5 points) based on EPRP medical record reviews adjusted for age, gender, race and an independent survey measure the facility prevalence of alcohol misuse.

† Quality indicators used to define the 6 categories were adjusted for age, gender, race (from national VA administrative data) and the independent survey measure the facility prevalence of alcohol misuse.