

Treatment Outcomes Profile (TOP)



**National Treatment Agency
for Substance Misuse**

About the TOP

The Treatment Outcomes Profile (TOP) is a new drug treatment outcome monitoring tool that has been developed by the NTA in partnership with drug treatment providers in over 70 sites across England. It is applicable for use in all of the structured treatment modalities as defined by Models of Care for Treatment of Adult Drug Misusers: Update 2006. For the first time, service users, clinicians, service managers and commissioners will be able to obtain objective and comparable data about real improvements in service users' lives that will be able to inform and improve practice on both an individual and strategic level.

The TOP is a simple set of questions that will improve clinical practice by enhancing assessment and care plan reviews for clients. The data it provides will improve performance monitoring. Data will be reported into the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) from October 2007 and results fed back to providers and commissioners from March 2008. There will also be monthly exception reports from NDTMS on non-returns and multiple submissions.

The TOP should be completed within 2 weeks either side (+/-2 weeks) of the first modality start date at the beginning of each client's treatment journey to record a baseline of behaviour in the month leading up to starting a new treatment journey. If the Treatment Start TOP is completed after the first modality start date, it should focus on the 28 days before this date. Review TOP scores should be recorded in regular 12-week review periods during treatment (it may be helpful to do this at the same time as a care plan review) to capture changes in behaviour. The first Review TOP can be completed 4 weeks or 29 days after the first modality start date. It should also be completed at Treatment Exit and may be used by some services to measure post Treatment Exit outcomes. Note: when services are introducing TOP, existing clients (as well as new presentations) should also have the TOP completed with them as part of the review process.

How to complete the TOP

Start by entering:

- Name and identifiers of your client (date of birth and gender)
- Your name
- Date of assessment
- The stage at which the TOP is being completed – Treatment Start, Review, Treatment Exit, or post Treatment Exit.

Types of responses:

- Timeline – invite the client to recall the number of days in each of the past four weeks on which they did something – for example, the number of days they used heroin. You then add these to create a total for the past four weeks in the blue NDTMS box
- Yes and no – a simple tick for yes or no, then a “Y” or “N” in the blue NDTMS box
- Rating scale – a 20-point scale from poor to good. Together with the client, mark the scale in an appropriate place and then write the equivalent score in the blue NDTMS box.

You should aim to ask and complete every question. Do not leave any of the blue boxes blank. Enter “NA” if the client refuses to answer a question or, after prompting, cannot recall.

(See TOP keyworker guidance and Interim revised guidance (August 2008) for more detailed information: www.nta.nhs.uk/TOP)

Alcohol units converter

Drink	%ABV	Units
Pint ordinary strength lager, beer or cider	3.5	2
Pint strong lager, beer or cider	5	3
440ml can ordinary strength lager	3.5	1.5
440ml can strong lager, beer or cider	5	2
440ml can super strength lager or cider	9	4
1 litre bottle ordinary strength cider	5	5
1 litre bottle strong cider	9	9

Drink	%ABV	Units
Glass of wine (175ml)	12	2
Large glass of wine (250ml)	12	3
Bottle of wine (750ml)	12	9
Single measure of spirits (25ml)	40	1
Bottle of spirits (750ml)	40	30
275ml bottle alcopops	5	1.5

Thank you for your contribution to the TOP