

President's Desk

by Glenn Miller

Dear Colleagues,

Twenty years and still having adventures! We are delighted to have the opportunity to celebrate twenty years of research, education and service with you. It seems like such a short time ago when my wife Margie and I were the only staff at SASSI. Today, we have grown to a staff of 17, and support the efforts of 82 trainers across the globe.

As we reflect on the past twenty years, what seems to resonate is knowing that the SASSI family has had the opportunity to support you in the work you do to reduce the toll of addiction on people's lives. For this, and for the friendship formed with so many of you, we are so grateful. Thank you.

As Margie and I continue to play a role at SASSI, we have also welcomed semi-retirement. This would not be possible without the leadership support of my dear friend and colleague, Mindy Caron, the SASSI Institute's Operations Manager.

Mindy has been with SASSI for more than eleven years and has previously served as training and marketing director. Today, it is Mindy's innovative spirit, contagious drive, and warm smile that bring the SASSI family together each day to carry out its mission to provide support to clinicians in their efforts to assess and treat clients with substance-related problems. Mindy, we thank you for your years of service and embrace your leadership of the SASSI Institute.

To all, thank you for your dedication to saving and transforming lives and the great support you have offered the SASSI Institute over the years. It has been wonderful feeling part of a broader team of counselors. We are delighted, as we decrease our role at SASSI, to introduce to you a new type of measure, the **Behaviors & Attitudes Drinking & Driving Scale (BADDS)**.

Warmly,

Glenn and Margie Miller

Do you work with impaired drivers?

Are your interventions effective?

New impaired driving screening instrument measures change

by Mindy Caron

Many impaired drivers have presented in your practice, court room, education program, or treatment center as a result of their drinking and driving behavior. Often, the intervention approach they take part in is largely dependent on the level of legal consequence the client presents with, rather than the characteristics and needs of the client. Additionally, measuring outcomes of the intervention for reporting or program modification purposes has been challenging.

Fortunately, the SASSI Institute is pleased to announce a tool that can be administered in multiple settings both as a screening instrument to assess drinking and driving attitudes and behaviors, and as a pre-post measure to assess intervention effectiveness. In partnership with Drs. Jeremy Jewell and Stephen Hupp, developers of the instrument, we proudly present to you the **Behaviors & Attitudes Drinking & Driving Scale (BADDS)**.

The BADDS is an evidence-based questionnaire that can help identify changes in risky behaviors and attitudes associated with impaired driving, and provides related information that can help develop appropriate and effective interventions for the people you serve.

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New impaired driving screening instrument measures change -Continued from page 1

Five primary scale scores can be derived from the BADDs:

- Rationalizations for Drinking and Driving (RD)
- Lenient Attitudes toward Drinking and Driving (LA)
- Likelihood of Drinking & Driving (LD)
- Drinking & Driving Behaviors (DB)
- Riding Behaviors with a Drinking Driver (RB)

Additional items on areas such as Alcohol Use, Awareness of Impairment, and Drinking and Driving History are included in the questionnaire to help gain further insight into the client.

Impaired driving prevention, intervention and treatment providers will find the BADDs to be an effective tool when measuring change or as a stand alone questionnaire. When using the 10-minute self-report pre-post questionnaire, you can:

- predict risk of future impaired driving behavior
- measure change following intervention
- evaluate intervention impact
- assess a group or individual
- be confident that it is valid, reliable and cost effective (**only \$1.50 per administration**)

Drs. Jeremy Jewell and Stephen Hupp of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, developed the BADDs as an empirically tested psychological tool. The BADDs demonstrates high levels of internal reliability and test-retest stability, as well as discriminant, criterion, and construct validity. It has also proven to be highly sensitive to change, making it an ideal tool to assess change over time.

When using the BADDs to predict future impaired driving behavior, counselors may find it helpful to pair the BADDs with the SASSI to further investigate the presence or absence of a substance use disorder.

We are proud to be able to offer the BADDs to you and hope that you find it useful in the important work you do.

A sample report illustrating the type of information that can be gathered using the BADDs is presented on pages 3 and 4.

To order the BADDs call (800) 726-0526 or to learn more visit www.thebadds.com.

The following is a staff directory for your reference. We welcome your questions and comments at any time.

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SASSI Training

If you are interested in attending a training to learn how to administer, score and clinically interpret the SASSI please visit our website at www.sassi.com for a current list of scheduled workshops.

The **BADDS** *Sample Report*

BADDS Respondent: William M.
Date: June 24, 2007
Report by: Case Manager,
Marshall County DUI Court Treatment Team

Presenting Problem:

William M. is a 38-year-old Caucasian male, presenting to the Marshall County DUI Court with a second DUI offense. His first offense occurred in 2005 and he was sentenced to time served (1 day), one year probation, paid a \$500 fine, and his driver's license was suspended for 90 days. Mr. M.'s probationary period from his first offense ended successfully in 2006.

On May 29, 2007, Mr. M. was arrested and entered into a no contest plea for drinking and driving under the influence. Mr. M. went before the court and asked for leniency on his conviction, yet expressed willingness to comply with any recommendations set by the court. Judge Andrews sentenced William M. to 2 days served in the Marshall County jail followed by 2 years of DUI Court participation and 12 months driver's license suspension.

Background Information:

Mr. M. is a manager at a local insurance firm, where he has worked for the past nine years. Mr. M. has a bachelor's degree in business from a state college. Mr. M. is married and has two young children. Mrs. M. is employed full-time as an elementary school teacher.

Medical and Mental Health History:

Mr. M. is of average height and weight. He stated that his health is very good without significant medical problems, except for a back injury that he sustained last year that continues to cause him pain. Mr. M. does smoke cigarettes. He has a family history of cardiovascular disease and high blood pressure. Mr. M. did not report any history of mental health problems of his own or in his family.



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Write in the subject line, 'subscribe' and you will receive periodic newsletters featuring clinical profiles, new product announcements, updates, and more!

Substance Use History:

Mr. M. reported that he began drinking when he was 17 years of age during his senior year in high school. Mr. M. stated that he drank on weekends "with the guys" while in school and reported his use as "normal." He maintained above a 2.5 grade point average throughout college and did not report any alcohol violations during this time. He did report drinking to intoxication approximately two to four times per month.

After college, Mr. M. was hired by his current employer. He reported that during his nine years with the company, he received excellent evaluations and was quickly promoted to his current managerial position. Mr. M. stated that after his first DUI conviction, he has tried to maintain a "no drinking and driving" policy and limits his alcohol intake to weekends only.

Mr. M. attributed his recent absences from work to lower back pain. Mr. M. denied drinking in the morning, withdrawal symptoms such as shaking or sweating, or loss of control of his use. He denied experiencing any recent blackouts or other behavioral changes.

DUI Court Intake:

The Marshall County DUI Court uses the Behaviors & Attitudes Drinking & Driving Scale (BADDS) at entry into the program and following the approximate two years of participation in drug court activities. Mr. M.'s BADDS results follow.

Continued on page 4

BADDs Pretest Results:

Mr. M. has high scores on four scales: Rationalizations for Drinking and Driving (RD: 27), Lenient Attitudes (LA: 29), Likelihood of Drinking and Driving (LD: 35), and Drinking and Driving Behaviors (DB: 03). Mr. M. scored in the moderate range for Riding Behaviors with a Drinking Driver (RB: 01).

Mr. M.'s BADDs results indicate that he is a suitable candidate for a DUI program that would help him learn about the risks of drinking and driving, and examine his beliefs about safe driving behavior. In addition, an evaluation for substance use disorder will be conducted in the next session with Mr. M. Without

Pretest Scale Scores					
Rationalizing (RD): 27 RD Pre Low (0-12) <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate (13-24) <input type="checkbox"/> High (25-48) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lenient Attitudes (LA): 29 LA Pre Low (0-10) <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate (11-20) <input type="checkbox"/> High (21-40) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Likelihood (LD): 35 LD Pre Low (0-15) <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate (16-30) <input type="checkbox"/> High (31-60) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Driving Behaviors (DB): 3 DB Pre Low (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate (1-2) <input type="checkbox"/> High (3 or more) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Riding Behaviors (RB): 1 RB Pre Low (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate (1-2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High (3 or more) <input type="checkbox"/>	Alcohol Use, Awareness, & History Items: Items 26-28 and 31-43 gather important information about the participant's drinking & driving patterns, knowledge, and history. Although not scored in the scales, reviewing these items individually can help assess the participant's need for alcohol evaluation, general knowledge for preventing impaired driving, and history of DUI arrests.

Mr. M.'s responses on the alcohol use and history items, in contrast to his stated attempts to limit his drinking to weekends, revealed that he drinks alcohol daily. Responses also showed that either he or someone significant to him has been in an alcohol-related accident. Despite his best efforts to refrain from drinking and driving, Mr. M. acknowledged that he drove under the influence and rode as a passenger in a vehicle of someone who had been drinking, within the month prior to his arrest.

intervention, Mr. M.'s scores suggest that he is at high risk of recidivism. The re-administration of the BADDs prior to his completion of the DUI court program would help to assess if there has been change in his risky behaviors and attitudes that could continue to put him at risk for further problems with impaired driving, if they are not adequately addressed.

Mr. M.'s high scores on the RD, LA, LD, and DB scales indicate that he has endorsed and acted upon risky beliefs and attitudes about drinking and driving. In addition, his responses on the LD scale suggest that it is acceptable to him to drive under certain circumstances after having at least three or four drinks. Mr. M.'s perception about how many drinks he can consume in one hour and drive safely and legally is just below probable legal limit based on his body weight. Further, Mr. M.'s RB score indicates that he has recently ridden in a vehicle with an impaired driver.

Summary and Recommendations:

Mr. M. enters into the DUI program as a sentencing requirement set by Judge Andrews after completing a 2-day incarceration.

Call
1-888-297-2774
 for FREE consultation on any BADDs or SASSI profile.
 Our clinicians are available to assist you
 M-F 9 am - 5 pm eastern time.