NORC DSM-IV Screen for Gambling Problems

The screen is set up to run first a lifetime screen for all items and then ask about the past year only for those items endorsed for lifetime.

How to score the items:
Lifetime: Add 1 point for every YES to any of the following items:
1 or 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 or 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 or 15 or 16, 17

Past year: Add 1 point for every YES to any of the following items:
18 or 19, 20, 22, 24, 25 or 26, 27, 29, 30, 31 or 32 or 33, 34

If gambler responds YES to more than one item in a response cluster (e.g., “8 or 9”), count them together as a single point.

Under the NODS typology
• a gambler who scores zero points is a lifetime or past-year Type B gambler, and
• a gambler who scores a 1 or 2 is a lifetime or past-year Type C gambler.
• Scoring a 3 or 4 would mean one is a lifetime or past-year Type D gambler, which corresponds to what certain studies have called a “possible pathological gambler” or “problem gambler.”
• A gambler who scores 5 or more on the NODS is a lifetime or past-year Type E gambler; by DSM-IV criteria, this person is a “probable pathological gambler.”

LIFETIME PROBLEMS

1. Have there ever been periods lasting two weeks or longer when you spent a lot of time thinking about your gambling experiences or planning out future gambling ventures or bets?
   YES  NO
2. Have there ever been periods lasting two weeks or longer when you spent a lot of time thinking about ways of getting money to gamble with?
   YES  NO
3. Have there ever been periods when you needed to gamble with increasing amounts of money or with larger bets than before in order to get the same feeling of excitement?
   YES  NO
4. Have you ever tried to stop, cut down, or control your gambling?
   YES GO TO 5  NO GO TO 8
5. On one or more of the times when you tried to stop, cut down, or control your gambling, were you restless or irritable?
   YES  NO
6. Have you ever tried but not succeeded in stopping, cutting down, or controlling your gambling?
   YES GO TO 7  NO GO TO 8
7. Has this happened three or more times?
   YES  NO
8. Have you ever gambled as a way to escape from personal problems?
   YES  NO
9. Have you ever gambled to relieve uncomfortable feelings such as guilt, anxiety, helplessness, or depression?
   YES    NO

10. Has there ever been a period when, if you lost money gambling one day, you would return another day to get even?
    YES    NO

11. Have you ever lied to family members, friends, or others about how much you gamble or how much money you lost on gambling?
    YES GO TO 12    NO GO TO 13

12. Has this happened three or more times?
    YES    NO

13. Have you ever written a bad check or taken something that didn’t belong to you from family members or anyone else in order to pay for your gambling?
    YES    NO

14. Has your gambling ever caused serious or repeated problems in your relationships with any of your family members or friends?
    YES    NO

15. ANSWER ONLY IF YOU ARE IN SCHOOL
    Has your gambling caused you any problems in school, such as missing classes or days of school or your grades dropping?
    YES    NO

16. Has your gambling ever caused you to lose a job, have trouble with your job, or miss out on an important job or career opportunity?
    YES    NO

17. Have you ever needed to ask family members or anyone else to loan you money or otherwise bail you out of a desperate money situation that was largely caused by your gambling?
    YES    NO

PAST YEAR PROBLEMS: COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU HAVE GAMBLED IN THE PAST YEAR.

18. [ANSWER ONLY IF 1=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have there been any periods lasting two weeks or longer when you spent a lot of time thinking about your gambling experiences or planning future gambling ventures or bets?
   YES    NO

19. [ANSWER ONLY IF 2=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have there been periods lasting two weeks or longer when you spent a lot of time thinking about ways of getting money to gamble with?
   YES    NO

20. [ANSWER ONLY IF 3=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have there been periods when you needed to gamble with increasing amounts of money or with larger bets than before in order to get the same feeling of excitement?
   YES    NO
21. [ANSWER ONLY IF 4=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have you tried to stop, cut down, or control your gambling?
   YES GO TO 22  NO GO TO 25

22. [ANSWER ONLY IF 5=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], on one or more of the times when you tried to stop, cut down, or control your gambling, were you restless or irritable?
   YES  NO

23. [ANSWER ONLY IF 6=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have you tried but not succeeded in stopping, cutting down, or controlling your gambling?
   YES  NO

24. [ANSWER ONLY IF 7=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], has this happened three or more times?
   YES  NO

25. [ANSWER ONLY IF 8=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have you gambled as a way to escape from personal problems?
   YES  NO

26. [ANSWER ONLY IF 9=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have you gambled to relieve uncomfortable feelings such as guilt, anxiety, helplessness, or depression?
   YES  NO

27. [ANSWER ONLY IF 10=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], has there ever been a period when, if you lost money gambling on one day, you would often return another day to get even?
   YES  NO

28. [ANSWER ONLY IF 11=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have you more than once lied to family members, friends, or others about how much you gamble or how much money you lost on gambling?
   YES GO TO 29  NO GO TO 30

29. [ANSWER ONLY IF 12=YES]
   Has this happened three or more times?
   YES  NO

30. [ANSWER ONLY IF 13=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have you written a bad check or taken money that didn’t belong to you from family members or anyone else in order to pay for your gambling?
   YES  NO

31. [ANSWER ONLY IF 14=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], has your gambling caused serious or repeated problems in your relationships with any of your family members or friends?
   YES  NO

32. [ANSWER ONLY IF 15=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], has your gambling caused you any problems in school, such as missing classes or days of school or getting worse grades?
   YES  NO
33. [ANSWER ONLY IF 16=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], has your gambling caused you to lose a job, have trouble with your job, or miss out on an important job or career opportunity?
   YES  NO

34. [ANSWER ONLY IF 17=YES]
   Since [current month][last year], have you needed to ask family members or anyone else to loan you money or otherwise bail you out of a desperate money situation that was largely caused by your gambling?
   YES  NO