



Assessment Checklist for Children



Assessment Checklist for Adolescents

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Limited licence for clinical and research use of the Assessment Checklist for Children (ACC) and the Assessment Checklist for Adolescents (ACA)

A limited licence to use **the Assessment Checklist for Children (ACC)** and the **Assessment Checklist for Adolescents (ACA)** and their short form versions (**ACC-SF, ACA-SF**) is presently granted to people who register their use with the instrument's developer. Only genuine researchers, qualified child and adolescent mental health clinicians (as well as developmental/educational Psychologists),¹ and supervised clinical trainees are approved to use the ACC and ACA. Block approval can be sought by clinicians working in relevant agencies or services (e.g. a CAMHS team, or the Psychological Services division of a child welfare agency). In this instance, the Clinical Director of the agency or service should ensure that the instrument is only distributed to qualified users. Only registered users have approval to use the ACC and ACA for an appropriate purpose. Registered users may not distribute these materials without the developer's permission. All materials remain the copyright of the developer, who reserves the right to revoke this limited licence. Please email the developer michael.tarren-sweeney@canterbury.ac.nz to be registered as an ACC and ACA user, and to obtain the ACC and ACA materials (sent as PDF documents).

There is a danger that ACC/ACA scores can be inappropriately interpreted or misused by non-clinicians. It thus should not be employed as an administrative, screening or evaluative tool by agencies without direct oversight by qualified clinicians. The developer does not agree to the instrument being used as a purely administrative tool by child welfare or health agencies. The Brief Assessment Checklists (BAC-C and BAC-A) are mental health screening instruments that were derived from the ACC and ACA, and which can be safely used by child welfare and health services for case monitoring and administrative uses. These can be downloaded at www.childpsych.org.uk

Some notes on valid administration of the ACC and ACA:

1. The instruments are designed for use by clinicians and researchers to assess mental health difficulties of 4-17 year-old children and young people in care.
2. The instruments are designed to be completed by adoptive parents and alternate caregivers, including foster parents, kinship caregivers (such as grandparents) and residential care workers.
3. The checklist should be completed by individual caregivers i.e. not collaboratively.
4. Valid administration requires that children and young people be in the full-time care of respondent caregivers for at least six weeks prior to assessment.
5. The checklist should only be completed in residential care by a worker who has close and ongoing contact with the child or young person.
6. While the instrument's content is possibly valid for maltreated children who are not in care, it is the developer's view that birth parents of maltreated children are unlikely to provide reliable responses about their children's mental health.

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¹ Includes Registered, Chartered or Board Certified Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Clinical Social Workers, Psychotherapists and Child Counsellors with training or experience in [clinical child and adolescent assessment](#).