Developing Brief Opportunistic Interactions: practitioners facilitate patients to identify and change health risk behaviours at an early preventive stage

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Aim: To identify shortcomings in existing models of patient behaviour change, and present the development and testing of a novel approach using practitioner facilitation and person-focussed conversations that identifies and addresses behaviours at an earlier stage than current models. Background: Systematic strategies used by health professionals to change patient behaviours began with motivational interviewing and brief intervention approaches for serious addictive behaviours. Practitioners typically presume they should drive the process of patient behaviour change. Attempts to transfer these approaches to primary care, and a broader range of health risk behaviours, have been less successful. The TADS programme (Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs, later Training and Development Services) began teaching motivational interviewing and brief interventions to practitioners in New Zealand in 1996. Formal and informal evaluations showed that practitioners used screening tools that patients rejected and that led to incomplete disclosure, used language that did not engage patients, failed to identify the behaviours patients wished to address and therefore misdirected interventions. Methods: Iterative development of new tools with input from patients and primary care clinicians. Findings: The TADS programme developed a questionnaire whose results remained private to the patient, which enabled the patient to identify personal behaviours that they might choose to change (the TADS Personal Assessment Choice Tool). This was assisted by a brief conversation that facilitated and supported any change prioritised by the patient (the TADS Brief Opportunistic Interaction). The need for this approach, and its effectiveness, appeared to be similar across adults, youth, different ethnic groups and people in different socio-economic circumstances. Behaviours patients identified were often linked to other health risk behaviours or early-stage mental health disorders that were not easily detected by practitioner-driven screening or inquiry. The long-term effectiveness of this approach in different populations in primary health care settings requires further evaluation.

Key words: behaviour change; brief interventions; doctor–patient communication; motivational interviewing; nurse–patient communication; primary health care

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**Introduction**

Nearly half of premature deaths from the 10 leading causes of mortality worldwide are attributable to personal behaviours (Lopez et al., 2006; Alwan et al., 2011). Collectively, they account for almost three-quarters of all medical care spending (Gruman and Follick, 1998). Half of all mental health disorders in adulthood start by age 14, but most cases are undetected and untreated (World Health Organization (WHO), 2014). Young adults are emerging as a new and neglected priority in global health (Horton, 2012). In 2012, an estimated 1.3 million adolescents died mostly from preventable or treatable causes. Health risk behaviours related to alcohol or tobacco use, lack of physical activity, unprotected sex and/or exposure to violence can impact both current and future health (WHO, 2014).

Primary health care and general practice settings are frequently proposed as the ideal environment for opportunistic and systematic behavioural change interactions. In New Zealand about 80% of the population visit a general practitioner (GP) and about 40% visit a primary health care nurse every year (Ministry of Health, 2008).

There are widespread attempts to address population health by identifying individual health risk factors and risky behaviours. Payment systems and policy mandates require, for example, collection of data to meet Quality and Outcomes Framework criteria in the United Kingdom (NHS Information Centre, 2012), or a targeted percentage of adults having cardiovascular risk assessments in New Zealand (Ministry of Health, 2015). Nurses in chronic care management clinics often follow a consultation structure based on the nurse determining what behaviours the patient needs to change (Jansink et al., 2010). There is an (often unspoken) assumption that if practitioners collect data which shows risks, they will act on this data and this action will change patient behaviour and risks. What happens too often is assessment without intervention (Parsons et al., 2013) or intervention with disappointingly small effect (Kenealy et al., 2011).

Practitioners are often under-prepared to discuss health risk behaviours with patients (Chisholm et al., 2012). Many practitioners claim lack of time as the main barrier to their changing patient behaviour (Kenealy et al., 2010; Finlayson et al., 2012) rather than recognising barriers internal to themselves (Ogden et al., 2004). Many practitioners resort to unsolicited advice, despite evidence that this can be unwelcome and that health is often insufficient motivation for change (Rollnick et al., 1993; Emmons and Rollnick, 2001). Dart suggests ‘we become emotionally invested in our patients ... [and] believe we know what is best for them’ (2011). Welch et al. (2006) contend that feeling responsible for fixing ‘broken’ patients reinforces the propensity of doctors and nurses to do most of the talking, supported by a belief that patients can change ‘if they really want to’ (McCabe, 2004). This is a short step to making moral judgements about ‘bad’ patients (Hill, 2010).

Nurses can make assumptions about their patient’s needs (Docherty, 2013) and their own lifestyle practices may influence any willingness to change patient behaviours. Clinicians who smoke are less likely to raise the issue of smoking with patients (Frank, 2004), and many fear that this will lead to conflict with their patients (Sim et al., 2009). Behaviours discussed are often highly selected and poorly prioritised to the needs of the individual patient. Tobacco smoking, obesity and physical activity are frequently identified in isolation from other high-risk activities, such as gambling, that may be associated with depression and hazardous alcohol use (Goodyear-Smith et al., 2006). Tobacco smoking interventions are much more likely to be discussed in primary health care settings than cannabis, despite three cannabis joints causing as much harm as 20 cigarettes (Aldington et al., 2008). Young people admitted to hospital for diabetes have an increased risk of suicide (Roberts et al., 2004), yet mental health is not a routine part of general practice diabetes care.

Health professionals have long attempted to change patient behaviour without the application of a strong theoretical basis and related training. Smith et al. (2006) suggest communication is about informing, influencing and motivating individuals. Elder et al. (1999) refer to informational power and expert power being used to convince patients to change using unsolicited advice while linking any non-conformity to possible severe health outcomes.

Motivational interviewing (MI) is an approach to behavioural counselling that seeks to ‘elicit and strengthen motivation for change’ (Miller, 1983). It was first applied to alcohol and later to heroin addictions (Miller, 1983) and is considered by

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some to be the most effective theoretically based intervention. It has been defined as ‘a directive, client-centered counselling style for eliciting behaviour change’ (Rollnick and Miller, 1995; Miller and Rollnick, 2009). MI continues to form the basis of behavioural change approaches to treatment (Coulter and Collins, 2011). The Transtheoretical Model of behaviour change was a logical extension of MI developed by Prochaska and DiClemente as a means to understand the process of addiction recovery (Prochaska and DiClemente, 1983; Prochaska et al., 1992). Other behavioural change variations, mostly based on MI, have been loosely and collectively labelled as brief interventions (BIs), despite a number of differences in the delivery mechanisms and settings in which they were developed. Recent New Zealand BI programmes introduced into primary care include ABC (Ask, Brief Advice, Cessation Support) for smoking cessation (Ministry of Health, 2007) and ABC (Ask, Brief Advice and Counselling) for reducing alcohol consumption (Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners, 2012). Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) is a psychotherapeutic approach that aims to alter attitudes and behaviours by replacing inaccurate thoughts (New Zealand Guidelines Group, 2012). Delivering a full CBT programme is beyond the scope of most primary care practitioners. The Flinders Programme™ (Lawn et al., 2009) is a semi-structured programme for disease-specific management based on both CBT and MI principles.

Effectiveness of behavioural change interventions can be seen at individual, community and population levels (Michie and West, 2013), although effects tend to be modest, with significant heterogeneity of effects over both short and long terms (Michie et al., 2008). Evaluations of effectiveness have been hindered by the absence of a gold standard for measuring health behaviours (Vitolins et al., 2000). Few behavioural change approaches have been tested in real-world longitudinal studies and some trials have been criticised for being clinically unrepresentative (Kaner et al., 2007). Nil to modest effects have been shown on alcohol consumption (Wutzke et al., 2002), physical activity (Smith et al., 2002), eating habits (Dunn et al., 2001), substance abuse, high-risk adolescent behaviours and a variety of chronic diseases (Wagner et al., 2000; Sammut, 2009).

Developing Brief Opportunistic Interactions (BOIs)

The BOI approach was developed from the Tobacco, Alcohol and other Drugs Early Intervention Project (TADS) at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, following involvement in the WHO Collaborative Project on Identification and Treatment of Persons with Harmful Alcohol Consumption in 1996 (Heather, 2006). The WHO project sought to develop a scientific basis for screening and BIs in primary care settings and to examine ways of engaging general practices in implementing a BIs approach (McCormick et al., 1999). Author B. D. was the TADS Project Manager from 1998 to 2006. The full name of TADS was changed in 2006, to Training and Development Services to reflect the move beyond a focus on tobacco and alcohol.

Starting in 1998, the TADS BIs training was implemented in many areas of New Zealand funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Health. A concurrent programme of evaluation drew on existing literature and used formal and informal qualitative and action research methods. There was constant critical reflection while continuously refining methods and ideas (Whitehead et al., 2003). Notes were taken but conversations were not recorded. Data were collected over 10 years from practitioner workshop participants (6500), consumer feedback (2500 adults and 348 youth), facilitator observation and feedback, and observation in real-world situations (Nemec, 2001). Practitioners came from general practice, school clinics and other primary health care settings. Consumers included people of European, Māori and Pacific ethnicities.

The programme that developed included three key elements: a new language for practitioner–patient interactions, a focus on opportunistic prevention that was not limited to alcohol and tobacco, and a process that enforced patient priority in identifying issues to be addressed. Central to the process is the Personal Assessment Choice Tool (PACT©), a questionnaire which comes in two versions, adult and adolescent (see Appendices). The way it is used is described in the next section. The unique feature is that PACT© responses are not viewed at any stage by practitioners. Questions relate to use of tobacco, alcohol, other drugs, gambling, mild to moderate mental...
health risks (anxiety and feeling down), anger, violence, physical activity and weight issues. Sexual health is included in the youth version.

The need for a new language was identified by both practitioners and consumers. Pre-training assessments identified that GPs and practice nurses were uncertain how best to approach behavioural change, had lengthy conversations despite feeling time-poor and felt frustrated at poor outcomes (Docherty, 2001). Surveys of adults and young people identified health professionals’ attitudes and behaviour (such as preaching, advice and judgement) as barriers to personal behaviour change. This was consistent with literature suggesting that practitioner word choice could negatively influence patient decisions (Freeman and Sweeney, 2001), and that practitioners could actively avoid or block communication, such as by denial of patients’ concerns, abruptly changing the subject or focussing on the least threatening aspect of a conversation (Webster, 1981; Booth et al., 1999). Examples of BOI language are given in Table 1.

The need for a programme much wider than just tobacco and alcohol was also identified by both practitioners and consumers (Docherty, 2001). Early findings from the TADS programme were that many young people and adults had multiple personal behavioural practices which interlinked. Mild to moderate mental health issues were mostly linked to a current personal behavioural practice such as alcohol, other drugs or gambling rather than a mental illness requiring specialist referral or medication. This led to a broad, opportunistic, preventative approach that allowed all behaviours and mental health risks to be addressed.

It became clear that practitioners did not, perhaps could not, correctly identify patient priority issues. A total of 82 practitioners were shown 339 anonymous PACT© responses, together with the socio-economic status and age of each patient, then asked which behaviours they would choose to start the change process with each patient. The behaviours chosen by health practitioners were not those chosen as the priority starting point by 98% of Adult PACT© patients and 96% of Youth PACT© patients.

That PACT© responses remain private was a strong desire of the participants who helped develop the programme (Parsonage, 2006; TADS Training Programme, 2006). Participants feared judgement by health professionals particularly for behaviours that are illegal, stigmatised or invite moralising (Brener et al., 2003). Privacy protects trust in preparation for the second stage of the BOI process where individuals choose their own starting point of change from their PACT© responses. The PACT© questionnaire provides an opportunity for each person to privately gain a snapshot of their current behaviours and mental health risks. Both adult and adolescent participants were clear that they did not want to address any issues immediately as they would feel overwhelmed. They valued the opportunity to think more about any identified behaviours and preferred to use the next opportunistic visit to discuss them.

Table 1 Examples of BOI language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practitioner driven</th>
<th>Person focussed (BOI)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘You have diabetes and will have to make some behavioural changes’</td>
<td>‘Tell me what you already know about diabetes and what that means for you’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘How many times a week are you going to the gym?’</td>
<td>‘What are the things you enjoy most about going to the gym?’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘It’s really important that you take your medication if you don’t want another heart attack ...’</td>
<td>‘What do you dislike most about taking medication?’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Tell me about these problems’ ‘How much weight have you lost?’</td>
<td>‘What have you noticed most since changing the way you are eating?’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘It’s often a good idea not to take life too seriously’</td>
<td>‘What is the main thing that triggers your sadness?’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘How many cigarettes do you smoke each day?’</td>
<td>‘What do you enjoy about smoking? And what’s not so great?’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let’s talk about all these problems</td>
<td>‘If you could change one thing in your life at the moment what would that be?’</td>
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BOI = Brief Opportunistic Interaction.

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Table 2  Questions at the second visit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do you currently enjoy about the behaviour you have chosen?</td>
<td>1–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you not like about it?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>How important is it to you to change that behaviour? Scale of 1–10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How confident do you feel that you can change this behaviour? Scale of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1–10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What could be getting in the way of changing this behaviour?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>How do you feel about making a plan together next time you come?</td>
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</table>

The final version of the Youth PACT© was tested opportunistically by nurses with 132 students aged 13–14 years across a full range of schools by socio-economic groups, and a wide range of ethnicities, in four geographical areas of New Zealand. They found similar behavioural and mental health risk responses across all school socio-economic groups and student ethnicities. The final version of the Adult PACT© was tested opportunistically in general practice and other settings over four years. Testing covered 216 participants of all ethnicities and a wide range of occupations. The TADS PACT© was acceptable and non-threatening to both adult and youth, across diverse populations by age, ethnicity and income (TADS Training Programme, 2007; Spoth et al., 2008) and in diverse clinical settings (Carroll et al., 2007). GPs said their understanding of person-focused behavioural change approach improved markedly and their sense of patient engagement in the consultation improved when they changed to BOI language. Practice nurses valued the ‘generic’ conversation capability they could use in all types of consultations, particularly around diabetes and other chronic conditions.

Implementation of this approach through New Zealand primary health care has been constant but slow and partial. Surveys and feedback from course ‘graduates’ point to practice systems and contractual funding arrangements as the main impediments to implementing BOI in general practice. Nurses stated that implementation fidelity was difficult to achieve if others in their workplace were not also trained in the BOI approach, resulting in feelings of isolation, loss of confidence and lack of support. Nurses, in particular, have consistently recommended TADS training as a core requirement for professional development and said it was significantly more relevant than the many disease-specific and repetitive short courses on offer.

The BOI approach and the PACT© in practice

The process unfolds over at least three visits. The first and second are opportunistic when the patient attends for something else. The third is organised for the purpose of making a behaviour change plan. Further short BOI conversations can continue whenever the patient presents to ensure ongoing self-management support. The first stage starts with the PACT© questionnaire, which can be offered to those over 14 years of age in any face-to-face setting where behavioural change discussions occur. The PACT© responses are stored securely and not viewed by practitioners.

The second stage happens at the next opportunistic encounter when the practitioner reminds the patient about the PACT© and asks if they can identify a priority issue or behaviour they may want to address. This is followed by six questions, which help define whether the person is able, ready and willing to make changes (Table 2). The practitioner is trained to suspend the usual practice of ‘needing to know’ or ‘diagnosing’ the ‘problem’. Using non-directive language, the practitioner facilitates the patient through their own decision-making process relating to the behaviour or mental health risk the person has chosen to address, at the same time helping to remove any obstacles to change. More details will emerge and be disclosed as the patient so chooses. At a later visit, the practitioner works with the patient to develop a plan, at which stage the process is similar to other approaches to self-management.

BOI language is more conversational than usual consultation styles we have observed. As it is inherently person focused, for example, starting a conversation by asking ‘What do you already know about …?’, it has been used successfully within research interviews in three New Zealand projects: the Diabetes Tracking Study (Dowell et al., 2010), the Very High Intensive Users (Rea et al., 2010) and assisting immunisation co-ordinators to engage with their stakeholders (Docherty, 2006).

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Table 3  An example of a BOI interaction during the TADS Youth PACT© pilot in 2006

The Youth PACT© contains simple, short, straightforward questions relating to tobacco, alcohol, other drugs, physical activity, weight, gambling, stress, anxiety, anger, sexual activity, feeling different to mates

Joshua’s story
Joshua was referred by a teacher to the school nurse ‘to discuss his weight problems’. After three visits both Joshua and the nurse reported no progress. The nurse offered Joshua the opportunity to complete the Youth PACT© rather than discuss his weight. She explained that the PACT© would give him his own personal snapshot picture as to what might be going on in his life and that neither she nor anyone else would ever see the answers. No behavioural change discussion took place at that visit in order for his responses to slowly assimilate without practitioner persuasion and perhaps ‘sow a seed’. The nurse utilised BOI language to facilitate in this and all subsequent interactions with Joshua

The process and dialogue
Stage 1. Joshua completed the Youth PACT©, which he signed, sealed and dated before it was locked away in a special cabinet
Stage 2. At his next visit Joshua opened the PACT© when offered by the nurse
Nurse: ‘If you could choose one thing from your answers on the PACT© – something that you don’t want in your life anymore – which would be number one?’
Joshua replied he had ‘ticked a lot of things’ then identified the question ‘Do you often feel that you are different to your mates and don’t fit in?’
Avoiding the usual lengthy ‘why, what, how’ questions the nurse asked ‘What is the one thing that makes you feel different to your mates?’
Joshua: ‘Something I don’t want to say Miss because you’ll tell me I’m silly and stuff …’
Nurse: ‘Does the thing you don’t want to tell me about have anything to do with anything else you have ticked on the PACT©?’
Joshua chose ‘Have you ever wanted to bet more and more on lotto, card games or the internet?’
Short BOI questioning followed to ascertain Josh’s readiness, willingness and ability to start to think about making some changes to his gambling. It transpired that he played poker in the school grounds but felt different to his mates because they had more money to bet with than he did and he didn’t want to lose their friendship. Using his parents’ credit card for internet gambling at night he became more and more in debt and stayed up long hours. His mood swings – jovial when winning, down when losing – were attributed by teachers to ‘hangovers’. The school counsellor was counselling him for alcohol misuse (he was a non-drinker). Joshua stated ‘Everyone thinks I drink just because my dad does … but I don’t’. No one accepted this at the school and no one had considered a gambling problem
Outcome. Joshua and his family agreed to family counselling about the gambling, which later also included discussions about healthy eating as a family affair. The nurse reported a change in her practice after observing what occurred with Joshua and his response when she used BOI language. She noted that the weight issues were less important to Joshua than feeling different to his mates and the weight discussion eventually followed anyway. Joshua had chosen to return to the nurse of his own volition a few days after completing the PACT© – a rare occurrence for behavioural change discussions with young people
Later when the nurse asked him what he thought of the PACT© and the talks they’d had, he said: ‘Awesome, easy as Miss … you didn’t tell me what to do. If it (the gambling) had gone on for much longer I probably would have topped myself’
Nurse: ‘How do you feel about that now Josh?’
Joshua: ‘I’m ok now, cos I know what the problem is …’
A suicide may have been averted

BOI = Brief Opportunistic Interaction; TADS = Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs Services; PACT = Personal Assessment Choice Tool.
Joshua (not his real name) was 14 at the time.
Table 3 illustrates BOI in action with a case study. The process in this case is typical, even though the outcome in question is extreme (though not unique). Table 4 summarises the BOI training programme.

Practice implications and future research

The BOI approach is an opportunistic, time efficient, low cost, preventative, generic approach to facilitate patients in identifying existing or emerging personal behavioural practices, so as to actively choose their beginning, ongoing and end point of behaviour change.

The TADS research and development programme has identified what may be key ingredients missing from other behavioural change approaches. Formal evaluation to assess the TADS programme’s contribution to performance of health practitioners and health outcomes for patients is now required.

Requests for the PACT© to be made available online have been rejected by TADS on the basis that this could allow untrained practitioners to use the tool but continue with their practitioner-driven approach to behaviour change. The PACT© was conceived, developed, refined by patients who entrusted it to use following a competency-based training programme that supports practitioners. Enquiries about use of the tool and appropriate training should be directed to the first author.

Acknowledgement

The authors wish to acknowledge the large number of consumers who influenced the redevelopment of the TADS programme.

Financial Support

We received no funding specific to this work.

Conflicts of Interest

B. D. was paid as Project Manager to deliver and manage the workshops, which led to developing the current TADS programme. During this time she was employed by the University of Auckland through a contract funded by the Ministry of Health. N. S. and T. K. have no conflicts of interest.

Ethical Standards

No ethics approval was sought or required to develop the TADS programme.

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Appendix 1: Youth PACT

Date:

(Author) Youth PACT® (Personal Assessment Choice Tool)

NB: This tool is to be utilised only by those who have accessed the TADS training and have demonstrated competency in the TADS BOI skills alongside implementation of the (Author) Youth PACT®

Please answer as many questions as you can. Your responses will be confidential to you and will not be read by anyone else.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you ever smoke tobacco?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you ever wanted to cut down or stop smoking tobacco?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you ever have a drink containing alcohol?</td>
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<td>Have you ever wished you could cut down on the amount of alcohol you drink?</td>
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<td>Have you ever used party pills or any other drugs such as cannabis?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you ever felt the need to cut down on your drug use?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you enjoy gambling such as lotto, poker, or the internet?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you ever wanted to bet more and more money on lotto, card games or the internet?</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you engage in any sexual activity, does this make you feel OK about yourself?</td>
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(Author) Youth PACT® 2007. TADS Training Programme. Copyright (Author). Used with permission (Author) 2015
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<tr>
<td>During the past few months, have you felt sad more than you have felt happy?</td>
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<td>Do you sometimes feel it is hard to keep your anger under control?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is there one thing in your life right now which is causing you heaps of stress?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you often feel that you are different to your mates and don’t fit in?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is there anyone in your life whom you are afraid of or who hurts you in any way?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you ever enjoy any form of regular exercise?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you often feel that it is difficult to control what or how much you eat?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Does your weight sometimes affect the way you feel about yourself?</td>
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*Thanks for filling out this questionnaire TADS©*

Name or Profile Number: 

(Author) Youth PACT© 2007. TADS Training Programme. Copyright (Author). Used with permission (Author) 2015
Appendix 2: Adult PACT

(Date)

**(Author) Adult PACT© (Personal Assessment Choice Tool)**

NB: This tool is to be utilised only by those who have accessed the TADS training and have demonstrated competency in the TADS BOI skills alongside implementation of the (Author) Adult PACT©

Please answer as many of the questions as you can. Your responses will be confidential to you and will not be read by anyone else.

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<th>Question</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<td>Do you ever smoke tobacco?</td>
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<td>Have you ever felt the need to cut down or stop smoking tobacco?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you ever have a drink containing alcohol?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you ever felt the need to cut down on your alcohol intake?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you ever used other recreational drugs such as cannabis?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you ever tried to cut down on your recreational drug use but found this difficult to do?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you ever engage in any form of gambling (such as the pokies or horses)?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you ever felt the need to bet more and more money?</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>During the past month have you often felt you have little interest or pleasure in doing things?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do everyday problems frequently seem too big to cope with?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is there one particular aspect of your life which you feel is causing you significant stress at the moment?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is there anyone in your life who you are afraid of or who hurts you in any way?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is controlling your anger sometimes a problem for you?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you interested in any sort of regular exercise?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you often feel that it is difficult to control what or how much you eat?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does your weight sometimes affect the way you feel about yourself?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thanks for filling out this questionnaire TADS©

Name or Profile Number of Respondent: ____________________________

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