

### SCORING THE PROJECT ALERT SURVEY OF STUDENT ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOR

#### I. OVERVIEW

The information below is designed to help you analyze the Project ALERT Survey of Student Attitudes and Responses. You will need two items to do this efficiently:

- A. The Student Survey with the response codes written in. These codes are particularly important when creating scales from several items. The items have been coded such that the highest number reflects a pro-drug attitude or other response expected to correlate positively with drug use.
- B. The information included under Creating Outcome Variables listed below. This section indicates how to create the variables typically used in assessing drug outcomes.

#### II. CREATING OUTCOME VARIABLES

##### A. DRUG USE OUTCOMES. Typical outcomes used in prior evaluations include the following:

	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana	Weighting
Lifetime Use	Question 13	Question 25	Question 36	0=no 1=yes
Past-month Use	Question 10	Question 21	Question 33	0=no 1=yes recode responses of 1,2,3 or 4 to 1
Weekly Use (3-5 days in the last month or more)	Question 10	Question 21	Question 33	0=no 1=yes recode responses of 0, 1 to 0 and of 2, 3, 4 to 1

Alcohol Consequences. Sum of 5 dichotomous variables (survey items Question 5a-e) that ask about getting sick, in fights, in trouble at school, in trouble at home and doing something you regret because of drinking. Values range from 0 (no consequences) to 5 (five different consequences).

**B. INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES.** Typical intermediate outcome measures focus on beliefs/attitudes about alcohol, cigarettes or marijuana and include the following:

	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana
<b>Single item measures</b>			
Intentions to use	Question 14	Question 26	Question 37
Friends approval of use	Question 9	Question 20	Question 32
Perceived prevalence	Question 7	Question 18	Question 30
Harms of occasional use	Question 45	Question 47	Question 46
<b>Scales created from several items</b>			
Low resistance self-efficacy	Question 52a-d	Question 53a-d	Question 54a-d
Pro-drug beliefs about consequences	Question 55a-f	Question 56a-f	Question 58a-f

Each of the two scales listed under II-B above should be constructed as an average of the items for the specific substance.