

Problem Gambling Screening

A Resource for Everyone

This fact sheet is to assist you with identifying someone who may potentially have a problem gambling issue.

WHERE CAN YOU GO FOR HELP?

Call the toll-free Indiana Problem Gambling Referral Line at 1-800-994-8448.

Initial Assessment:

Ask the person these two questions. If they answer yes to either or both of these questions additional screening and follow-up is needed.

1. Have you ever felt the need to bet more and more money?
2. Have you ever had to lie to people important to you about how much you gamble?

Lie Bet Screen by Johnson, E.E., et al. (1988).

Warning Signs

Spends a lot of time gambling: May miss work, school, family obligations or other important events.

Gambles to escape: Frequently talks about wins, but keeps loses and information about family finances to themselves.

Suffers severe mood swings: The person's state of mind depends on whether or not he/she wins or loses; when not gambling the person may become anxious or angry.

Bets increase in size: The person bets higher and higher amounts in hopes of breaking even or winning back loses.

Tries to stop gambling, but can't: A compulsive gambler may try to stop gambling, but in most cases is unable to quit without help.

Positive Screening Results

If the answers yes are to one or both of the screening questions, they should look into the options for further screening. There is a toll-free hotline in Indiana that will assist with finding a referral for further screening and possible treatment. Callers to the hotline will be referred to the nearest state endorsed provider. All calls to the hotline are confidential.

If the person is hesitant or uncomfortable to call the hotline, someone else may call the hotline for them to secure the referral.

The hotline number is: 1-800-994-8448

Problem gambling can effect anyone. Compulsive gambling is a diagnosable, treatable disorder, which effects the gambler and his/her family, friends, employer and community.

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Indiana Problem
Gambling Awareness
Program

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