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| **Domain:** | Substance Use-related Neurobehavioral and Cognitive Risk Factors |
| **Measure:** | Delayed Reward Discounting (Monetary Choice Questionnaire) |
| **Definition:** | This measure assesses whether the participant prefers smaller immediate rewards over delayed larger rewards. |
| **Purpose:** | This measure captures one or more of the subdimensions of impulsivity and may predict initiation of substance use and other externalizing disorders. When compared with the general population, drug users and abusers show greater preference for small but immediate rewards, and more readily discount a long-term reward. Thus, substance users may prefer the immediate euphoria of substance use over the longer term benefits of abstinence (i.e., maintaining employment, relationships, and physical health) (Kirby et al., 1999). |
| **Essential PhenX Measures:** | Current Age |
| **Related PhenX Measures:** | Disinhibiting Behaviors - Impulsivity Decision Making (Iowa Gambling Task) Laboratory Test of Risk Taking (Balloon Analogue Risk Task) |
| **Collections:** | Personality Substance Use-related Neurobehavioral and Cognitive Risk Factors |
| **Keywords:** | Discounting of Delayed Rewards, Drug Abuse, Drug Use, Impulsivity, Inter-temporal Choice, Substance Abuse, Substance Use, Temporal Discounting, SAA, Substance Use-related Neurobehavioral and Cognitive Risk Factors |

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| **Protocol Release Date:** | February 24, 2012 |
| **PhenX Protocol Name:** | Delayed Reward Discounting (Monetary Choice Questionnaire) |
| **Protocol Name from Source:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |
| **Description:** | The Monetary-Choice Questionnaire is a 27-item self-administered questionnaire. For each item, the participant chooses between a smaller, immediate monetary reward and a larger, delayed monetary reward. The protocol is scored by calculating where the respondent’s answers place him/her amid reference discounting curves, where placement amid steeper curves indicates higher levels of impulsivity.  For more information about the Monetary-Choice Questionnaire, please refer to the [link[www.cognitiveatlas.org/task/id/tsk\_4a57abb949e98|Cognitive Atlas Interpretation]]. |
| **Specific Instructions:** | There is considerable evidence that the use of hypothetical and the use of real awards in delayed discounting produce very similar results (Lawyer et al., 2011). |
| **Protocol:** | **Monetary-Choice Questionnaire**  For each of the next 27 choices, please indicate which reward you would prefer: the smaller reward today, or the larger reward in the specified number of days.  1. Would you prefer $54 today, or $55 in 117 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  2. Would you prefer $55 today, or $75 in 61 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  3. Would you prefer $19 today, or $25 in 53 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  4. Would you prefer $31 today, or $85 in 7 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  5. Would you prefer $14 today, or $25 in 19 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  6. Would you prefer $47 today, or $50 in 160 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  7. Would you prefer $15 today, or $35 in 13 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  8. Would you prefer $25 today, or $60 in 14 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  9. Would you prefer $78 today, or $80 in 162 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  10. Would you prefer $40 today, or $55 in 62 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  11. Would you prefer $11 today, or $30 in 7 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  12. Would you prefer $67 today, or $75 in 119 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  13. Would you prefer $34 today, or $35 in 186 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  14. Would you prefer $27 today, or $50 in 21 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  15. Would you prefer $69 today, or $85 in 91 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  16. Would you prefer $49 today, or $60 in 89 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  17. Would you prefer $80 today, or $85 in 157 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  18. Would you prefer $24 today, or $35 in 29 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  19. Would you prefer $33 today, or $80 in 14 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  20. Would you prefer $28 today, or $30 in 179 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  21. Would you prefer $34 today, or $50 in 30 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  22. Would you prefer $25 today, or $30 in 80 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  23. Would you prefer $41 today, or $75 in 20 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  24. Would you prefer $54 today, or $60 in 111 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  25. Would you prefer $54 today, or $80 in 30 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  26. Would you prefer $22 today, or $25 in 136 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  27. Would you prefer $20 today, or $55 in 7 days?  [ ] smaller reward today  [ ] larger reward in the specified number of days  **Scoring**  A participant’s discounting curve may be calculated according to the following function:  *V* = *A*/(1+*kD*)  *V* is the present value of the delayed reward *A* at delay *D*, and *k* is the rate of discounting. *k* typically falls between 0.0 and 0.5, with smaller values indicating a lack of discounting and preference for delayed rewards and higher values indicating strong discounting and a preference for immediate rewards. Thus higher values of *k* are indicative of high levels of impulsivity.  There are two ways of scoring the Monetary-Choice Questionnaire. The first involves hand scoring to get an estimate of k following the guidelines given in Kirby (2000). The second involves fitting a logistic regression function to individual responses following procedures described in Wileyto et al. (2004).  **Estimating Discounting Rate**  The following table lists the calculated *k* values (the degree of discounting) at indifference for each question (i.e., when the subjective value of the immediate and delayed rewards are equivalent).   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Question | *k* at indifference | | 13 | .00016 | | 1 | .00016 | | 9 | .00016 | | 20 | .00040 | | 6 | .00040 | | 17 | .00040 | | 26 | .0010 | | 24 | .0010 | | 12 | .0010 | | 22 | .0025 | | 16 | .0025 | | 15 | .0025 | | 3 | .0060 | | 10 | .0060 | | 2 | .0060 | | 18 | .016 | | 21 | .016 | | 25 | .016 | | 5 | .041 | | 14 | .041 | | 23 | .041 | | 7 | .10 | | 8 | .10 | | 19 | .10 | | 11 | .25 | | 27 | .25 | | 4 | .25 |   An estimate of the respondent’s discounting rate can be calculated as the geometric mean (to avoid underweighting) of the *k at indifference* between the two questions that reflect when the respondent changes between choosing the delayed reward versus the immediate reward. In cases where the respondent’s change between preferring the delayed versus the immediate reward is not consistent, the two questions that are most proportional to their responses are chosen. If the participant always chooses the immediate reward or the delayed reward, the estimation of *k* is equal to one of the endpoints (0.25 or 0.00016). |
| **Selection Rationale:** | Delayed Reward Discounting has been shown to be moderately associated (*d* ~ .4-.6) with a broad range of addictive behaviors and can predict initiation of substance use (MacKillop et al., 2011; Audrain-McGovern et al., 2009). The Monetary Choice Questionnaire has been shown to be temporally stable, has been used with adolescents, and is highly correlated (*r* = 0.82) with computer-based experimental methods. |
| **Source:** | Kirby, K. N., Petry, N. M., & Bickel, W. K. (1999). Heroin addicts have higher discount rates for delayed rewards than non-drug-using controls. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, *128*, 78-87. |
| **Life Stage:** | Adolescent Adult |
| **Language of source:** | English |
| **Participant:** | Adults and adolescents aged 13 years or older |
| **Personnel and Training Required:** | None |
| **Equipment Needs:** | None |
| **Standards:** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Standard** | **Name** | **ID** | **Source** | | Common Data Element (CDE) | Neurobehavioral Delayed Reward Discounting Assessment Score | 3346937 | [CDE Browser](https://cdebrowser.nci.nih.gov/CDEBrowser/search?elementDetails=9&FirstTimer=0&PageId=ElementDetailsGroup&publicId=3346937&version=1.0) | |
| **General references:** | Audrain-McGovern, J., Rodriguez, D., Epstein, L. H., Cuevas, J., Rodgers, K., & Wileyto, E. P. (2009). Does delay discounting play an etiological role in smoking or is it a consequence of smoking? *Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 103*(3), 99-106.  deWit, H. (2008). Impulsivity as a determinant and consequence of drug use: A review of underlying processes. *Addiction Biology, 14,* 22-31.  Epstein, L. H., Richards, J. B., Lerman, C., Saad, F. G., Paluch, R. A., & Roemmich, J. N. (2003). Comparison between two measures of delay discounting in smokers. *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*, *11*, 131-138.  Fernie, G., Cole, J. C., Goudie, A. J., & Field, M. (2010). Risk-taking but not response inhibition or delay discounting predict alcohol consumption in social drinkers. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 112*(12), 54-61.  Kirby, K.N. (2000). Instructions for inferring discount rates from choices between immediate and delayed rewards. Unpublished manuscript.  Kirby, K. N. (2009). One-year temporal stability of delay-discount rates. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, 16*(3), 457-462.  Lawyer, S. R., Schoepflin, F., Green, R., & Jenks, C. (2011). Discounting of hypothetical and potentially real outcomes in nicotine-dependent and non-dependent samples. *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology, 19*(4), 263-274.  MacKillop, J., Amlung, M. T., Few, L. R., Ray, L. A., Sweet, L. H., & Munafo, M. R. (2011). Delayed reward discounting and addictive behavior: A meta-analysis. *Psychopharmacology, 216*(3), 305-321.  Wileyto, E. P., Audrain-McGovern, J., Epstein, L. H. & Lerman, C. (2004). Using logistic regression to estimate delayed-discounting functions. *Behavior Research Methods, Instruments, & Computers, 36*(1), 41-51. |
| **Mode of Administration:** | Self-administered questionnaire |
| **Derived Variables:** | None |
| **Requirements:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Requirement Category** | **Required** | | Major equipment | No | | Specialized training | No | | Specialized requirements for biospecimen collection | No | | Average time of greater than 15 minutes in an unaffected individual | No | |
| **Process and Review:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |