

NMA Scripts for Rooming Staff

Before offering the NIDA-Modified ASSIST for CHAMP (NMA)

Prior to giving the NMA screener, rooming staff may want to use this sample script to put the screener into context for the patient and to help the patient understand the purpose of the screener:

- *I have a new screening tool that we're now using routinely with our patients. It's connected to expanded treatment opportunities we are offering here at the clinic in response to the opioid epidemic.*

This screening will give your provider important information that they can use to guide your healthcare decisions and help us take care of you in the best way possible.

The patient's NMA score should be tallied and recorded after completion and entered into the EMR, even if zero, in the same way that the results of other annual screening questions are entered in the medical record, like whether someone has had their flu shot for example, or their score on the PHQ9.

Do NOT enter "0" in the EHR if the patient did not complete the NMA

- Make a note in the chart if the patient was unwilling or unable to complete the NMA.

Responding to Frequent Patient Questions about the NMA

Patient Question:	Why do I need to fill this out?
Answer	This is much like our other annual screening questions, like asking whether you've had your flu shot. It helps your provider understand your overall health and well-being better. We're instituting regular screening for Opioid Use Disorder to everyone in the clinic these days, as part of our response to the severity of the opioid epidemic
Patient Question:	Are you saying you think I have problems with drugs?
Answer	We're instituting annual screening for Opioid Use Disorder to everyone in the clinic these days, as part of our response to the severity of the opioid epidemic. This is much like our other annual screening questions, like asking whether you've had your flu shot. It helps your provider understand your overall health and well-being better.
Patient Question:	If I don't feel like I have these problems, should I still fill this out?
Answer	Yes. This information is just as important as tracking your blood pressure or temperature. It helps your provider assess your overall health and well-being. We're instituting regular screening for Opioid Use Disorder to everyone in the clinic these days, as part of our response to the severity of the opioid epidemic.
Patient Question:	Do I have to fill this out even if I'm not comfortable answering these questions?
Answer	You never have to fill out a form or answer questions that you're not comfortable with. If you have concerns about completing this, I'll tell your provider you would like to talk about it with them.
Patient Question:	I would rather just talk to my provider about these questions instead of filling this out. Is that OK?
Answer	Yes, of course.
Patient Question:	I don't understand some of these questions. Can you help me?
Answer	If you have questions about the specific items on the form and how they apply to you, it would be best to talk about that with your provider. But if you would just like me to read the questions to you out loud, I can do that if you like.