

WHY HOST A SCREENING EVENT?

Gambling Disorder Screening Day (Screening Day) is a one-day event held annually on the second Tuesday of March during [Problem Gambling Awareness Month](#). Established in 2014, Screening Day has included supporters and screeners from Cambridge Health Alliance, Massachusetts and New England, the United States, and around the world. Screening Day has helped identify individuals in those regions who might have Gambling Disorder and should seek further assessment.

Although the FCCG supports year-round screening for gambling-related problems, Screening Day is an international movement designed to support providers in the identification of Gambling Disorder. Gambling Disorder leads to financial, emotional, social, occupational, and physical harms, yet many cases of Gambling Disorder go undetected, due to limited assessment for this problem. Screening Day addresses the imperative to detect gambling-related problems as early as possible, and the FCCG encourages all organizations and providers to participate in this annual event.

Why Screen for Gambling Disorder?

- Gambling Disorder leads to financial, emotional, social, occupational, and physical harms.
- Gambling Disorder affects about 1% of the general population, and subclinical past year gambling-related problems affect 2 – 3% of the general population.
- As much as 10% of primary care patients report lifetime Gambling Disorder, and an additional 5% report lifetime subclinical problems.
- People with gambling-related problems are more likely to smoke, consume excessive amounts of caffeine, have more emergency department visits, and be obese.
- Although nearly 50% of people who have gambling problems are in treatment for “something,” national studies have failed to identify anyone who currently reports being in treatment specifically for gambling-related problems.
- Many cases of Gambling Disorder go undetected, due to limited assessment for this problem.

What Should Happen at Gambling Disorder Screening?

- Complete a brief Gambling Disorder screen
- Provide educational materials on Gambling Disorder
- **Individuals who screen positively or want to learn about additional help, resources, and information should be referred to the 24/7, Confidential, and Multilingual 888-ADMIT-IT Problem Gambling HelpLine for Florida**

Hosting a screening event on Screening Day has never been easier. The Division’s Screening Day Toolkit contains a variety of free online tools and resources, including a printable and customizable [Screening Day Flyer](#), [BBGS e-Screener](#) (Brief Biosocial Gambling Screen) and a one-page article [What Is Gambling Disorder?](#) The Division encourages organizations and individuals to share these tools and resources to educate staff and patients.