LIE-BET TOOL
TO RULE OUT PATHOLOGICAL GAMBLING

Historically, clinicians have indicated that another series of questions added to the intake process would be difficult to include. The instrument will be useful in clinical settings where clinicians have limited time and often are required to collect a great deal of information from each patient. A two-question survey will hopefully be met with less resistance and allow us to establish a “foot hold” within the intake process.

The Lie-Bet tool (Johnson et al., 1988) has been deemed valid and reliable for ruling out pathological gambling behaviors. The Lie-Bet’s two questions consistently differentiate between pathological gambling and nonproblem-gambling and are useful in screening to determine whether a longer tool (e.g., SOGS, DSM-IV) should be used in diagnostics.

Lie-Bet Screening Instrument

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 gambled?