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A Short Screen For Problem Gambling

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**The NLCLiP: A short screen for problem gambling administered
in an omnibus survey of English and Welsh schools:
Method and Preliminary Results**

by

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Background



Past Short Screens:

- Lie/Bet, Johnson et al 1988
- MAGS 7, Shaffer et al 1994
- NODS-CLiP, Toce-Gerstein and Volberg 2003
- EIGHT Screen, Sullivan 2007

Verification:

- Rossow and Molde 2006
- Gotestam et al 2004
- Langhinrichsen-Rohling et al 2004

NODS-CLIP: Toce-Gerstein and Volberg, 2003



Control: Have you ever tried to cut down or control your gambling?

Lying: Have you ever lied to family members, friends or others about how much you gamble or how much money you lost gambling?

Preoccupation: Have there ever been periods lasting 2 weeks or longer when you spent a lot of time thinking about your gambling experiences or planning out future gambling ventures or bets?

NLCLiP: Design Principles



Simplification needed for use with children:

- **No mention of gambling**
- **List of alternative activities**
- **Simple questions**
- **As few options as possible (quite a lot, only sometimes and never)**

NLCLiP: The questions used



Control: In the past year, have you tried to stop, cut down or control how much you do of the following things?

Lying: In the past year, have you lied to family members, friends or others about how much you do of the following things?

Preoccupation: In the past year, have you found yourself thinking about playing, or planning to play, any of the following things?

NLCLiP: Activities included



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- **Scratchcards**
- **National Lottery games**
- **Fruit machines**
- **Betting at a betting shop**
- **Internet gambling**
- **Private bets**

Study method of ipsos MORI young people omnibus



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- 100 schools in England and Wales
- Fieldwork in Spring 2008
- 2,140 children under 16
- Questionnaire completed in class
- Part of a wider omnibus survey
- Focus of NLC questioning on internet usage

Key Questions



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- **Can responses be obtained?**
- **Are results consistent with past studies?**
- **What do they show about risks?**

Can responses be obtained?



	Number	% of total
Total Sample (weighted)	2,169	
No responses at screen	142	6.5
Total responses	2,027	93.5

Are results consistent?



Those answering “Quite a lot” to:	Number	% of total
One question	324	14.9
Two questions	91	4.2
Three questions	67	3.1

Relative riskiness: An NLC analysis



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	Number of “Quite a Lot” responses (a)	Estimated number of participations in past year (b)	(a/b) x 100	Ranking 1 = most safe to 6 = least safe
Scratchcards	288	4,472	6.44	5
Fruit machines	311	7,748	4.01	2
Internet gambling (not NL)	232	2,444	9.49	6
NL Lotto	238	7,124	3.34	1
Private bets	379	8,632	4.39	3
Betting at a betting shop	209	4,472	4.67	4

Next Steps



- **Use next Under 16s prevalence study to check these results**
- **Short screen randomly allocated to sub-sample**
- **Aim will be to compare:**
 - Response rates and patterns of response
 - People identified as pathological, problem and at risk gamblers
 - Estimates of rates of risk



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