

Prioritizing Domains and Concepts for Standardized Assessments

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Reviewed State LTSS Assessments

- Multiple types of assessments in state programs
 - Determine level of need
 - Level I Screens to identify eligibility
 - Level II Assessments to determine need
 - Identify available resources- care planning
 - Manage access to care

Many State Initiatives

- Arizona
- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Minnesota
- Arkansas
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Maine
- Maryland

Mississippi
Missouri
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Ohio
Texas

Reviewed State LTSS Assessments

- Common Focus Areas
 - Health status
 - Functional status
 - Cognitive status
 - Social supports
 - Financial supports
 - Caregiver needs

Considerations in Developing Systems

- What content to use?
 - Home-grown quality reporting programs established to meet OBRA 1987
 - Build on existing MDS 2.0 items to create standard comparisons between NHs and Community-based services
 - Develop own systems to allow state-wide data sharing – collect it once, use it multiple times

Considerations in Developing Systems

- What state programs will be using the data and who are the stakeholders
 - Traditional Medicaid programs (health and LTSS)
 - Medicaid Waiver programs
 - Managed Medicaid programs
 - Housing and social service programs
- Other stakeholders who could benefit from sharing the information
 - Healthcare providers, including primary care physicians, specialists, home health agencies
 - Area Agencies on Aging and Independent Living Centers
 - Family, friends, and other support systems

Considerations in Developing Systems

- How widely will the data be shared?
 - Across one state IT system?
 - Across several state IT systems?
 - Between state and Federal reporting systems?
 - Among the caregiving teams?

- What types of options are available?
 - Paper transfer of information?
 - Electronic submission of assessment data to program office?
 - Health Information Exchange/IT Superhighway?
 - HL7/other specification to allow exchangeability among diverse systems?

Considerations in Developing Systems

- What types of challenges need to be considered
 - Stakeholder interests
 - Budget constraints
 - Political constraints
 - Social constraints
- What tools can be used to address these challenges
 - Informational meetings
 - Town hall meetings
 - Provider/association boards/newsletters
 - Local constituencies
 - State legislatures

Resources to Build Systems

- Existing state information technology
- Existing state/federal information technology
 - MDS, OASIS, IRS, CDC
- Federal grants programs
 - CMS initiatives
 - ACL initiatives
 - ONC initiatives
- State legislative initiatives
 - Coordinate state programs
- Contractors' systems
 - Health plans managing the LTSS services

Goals of Person-Centered Assessment Systems

- Collect it once, use it multiple times
 - Standard terms
 - Standard item definitions
- Exchange it electronically
 - Shared IT systems
 - Interoperable data standards to allow sharing across diverse IT systems
 - Privacy protection standards

What Should Be Standardized

- Does every concept that is common across systems need to be measured the same way?
 - Across all types of concepts
 - Health
 - Function
 - Social support
 - Across all populations
 - Aged
 - Physically Disabled
 - Developmentally Disabled
 - Traumatic Brain Injury
 - HIV/AIDs
 - Severely Mentally Ill

Criteria for Prioritizing Concepts

- Most commonly used across programs?
- Use in determining eligibility for ranges of service?
- Use in care planning?
- Use in measuring total spend per person?
- Use in measuring outcomes to document cost-effectiveness of program?