

# Assessment Tools and Funding



Oregon Transformation Steering Committee  
March 10, 2006

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# Overview

- Assessment tools provide information about support needs
- States use various tools to tie funding to support needs
- Each tool has its pros and cons

# Inventory for Client and Agency Planning (ICAP)

- What it measures: adaptive and maladaptive behavior
- Generates scale scores and service need level scores
- Captures reasonably complete information about individuals (demographics, disability and condition)
- More than 20 years old
- Nationally normed – acceptable validity and inter-rater reliability
- Administration: Interview three people who know the person

# ICAP

- Originally designed as profiling tool not a funding tool
- Application: Level of care determination/eligibility (Wyoming and Utah)
- Application: Funding
  - Wyoming DOORS (IRAs)
  - Tiered funding schemes (e.g., Texas, Tennessee)
- Utility in person-centered planning: low
- Must be purchased from private company
- Perceived by some as a “deficit-based tool”

# Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)

- What it measures: amount of support a person needs to perform/engage in certain activities
- Includes health and behavior components
- Other types of information (disability, condition, living arrangement) must be captured from other data sources or a SIS+ implemented
- Developed and released by AAMR in 2004
- Nationally normed – acceptable validity and inter-rater reliability
- Administration: Interview the person and others who know the person. Requires solid interviewing skills

# SIS

- Designed to support person-centered planning, not funding
- Only adult version available – child version is under development
- First adopter states: GA, LA, PA, WA, UT (others in the wings) – some localities (California, Colorado and North Carolina)
- Most advanced: WA
- Perceived as strength-based
- Must be purchased/licensed from AAMR

# SIS & Funding

- GA is working with to establish IRAs
- WA: Link SIS and other information to levels of residential payments and amount of day and family support services
- UT and LA will probably use to develop IRAs
- NC exploring applications

# Developmental Disabilities Profile (DDP)

- Developed in NYS to acquire information about people waiting for services
- “Deficits - based” tool
- Adopted by KS and OH for application to funding (tiers and funding ranges)
- Utility in service planning: low
- Costs: License for nominal sum from NYS

# SNAP – Support Needs Assessment Profile

- Developed in North Carolina to acquire information about support needs of individuals
- Purposely designed as abbreviated tool
- Close correspondence between SNAP scores and ICAP Service Level scores
- Utility in service planning: low
- Must be purchased from North Carolina

# NC-SNAP

- Funding: Linked in NC to tiered payments for certain types of services (e.g., residential)
- Has not be shown to have utility for IRA development
- Low adoption by other states
- Chief advantages: brevity and low cost of administration

# Montana MONA

- Not an assessment tool
- Captures information about expected “cost drivers”
- Designed to generate IRAs
- Used in Florida and Montana
- Proprietary tool
- Not statistically validated
- Support for service planning: unknown

# Observations

- Installing a tool such as ICAP or SIS is a major undertaking in its own right – both initially and on an ongoing basis
- SIS has enjoyed positive initial reception; applications to funding are just starting
- NC-SNAP illustrates a tool that can be used to assign individuals to rate tiers