The DDD Assessment

Developmental Disability Service System Task Force

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What is the DDD Assessment?

- An assessment tool that helps the department collect information regarding a person's support needs for a variety of activities in various settings.

- A eligibility tool that uses algorithms and acuity scales to determine DDD service eligibility and level of need;

- A planning tool that identifies health and welfare needs to help case resource managers develop an individual support plan.

DDD Assessment Benefits

- Provides comprehensive information about the needs of children and adults with developmental disabilities as well as the needs they have in common with others;

- Incorporates proven assessment tools that have passed critical validity tests in accurately predicting support needs for a variety of tasks/activities in various settings;

- Promotes objectivity, consistency and fairness in service determination;

- Provides a direct, reliable and valid measure of support needs through use of algorithms & acuity scales.

Support Intensity Scale (SIS)

- Developed by the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD);

- SIS is comprehensive and is normed and validated for persons with developmental disabilities;

- Reflects a new way of thinking about assessment. Focuses on support needs instead of deficits;

- Engages individuals and their respondents to consider supports needed to meet individual needs and promote personal growth;

- 22 states have adopted use of the tool and it has been translated into 14 languages;

Algorithms & Acuity Scales

- Algorithms and acuity scales are tools that provide a framework for classifying individuals into groups by level of severity;

- They use assessment information to identify an individual's relative level of need for a specific task, activity or domain;

- Acuity levels of none, low, medium, and high represent the urgency and severity of needed assistance for a particular individual;

- Serve as guidelines for allocating resources and justifying department decisions;

- Aid in understanding the service needs of individuals to develop resource requests.

DDD Algorithms & Acuity Scales

Algorithms

- Residential
- Respite
- Medicaid Personal Care
- Individual & Family Support
- Children's Intensive In-home Behavior Support (CIIBS)
- Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)

Acuity Scales

- Protective Supervision
- Caregiver Status
- Behavior
- Medical
- Interpersonal
- Mobility
- Seizure
- Activities of Daily Living
- Employment
- Community Access

Handouts

- SIS Activities Essential Elements
- SIS Rating Key with Definitions
- Activities of Daily Living Scale

Residential Algorithm
(WAC 388-828-9500 – WAC 388-828-9700)

A. Used to determine a support need level for clients who are approved to receive Supported Living, Group Home or Companion Home Services.

B. A client's Support Need Level is based on scores from the following:

- Protective Supervision Acuity Scale
- Behavior Acuity Scale
- Medical Acuity Scale
- Seizure Acuity Scale

- Support Intensity Scale (SIS)
- Programs and Service Panel

Example 1: Residential Algorithm Comparisons of clients by Setting

Residential Level	Frequency of Support	Support Need Characteristics	RHC (N=882)	SOLA (N=112)	Supported Living (N=3458)
1	Weekly or less	Client requires supervision, training, or physical assistance in areas that typically occur weekly or less often, such as shopping, paying bills, or medical appointments. Client is generally independent in support areas that typically occur daily or every couple of days.	-	-	1%
2	Multiple times per week	Client is able to maintain health and safety for a full day or more at a time AND needs supervision, training, or physical assistance with tasks that typically occur every few days, such as light housekeeping, menu planning, or guidance and support with relationships. Client is generally independent in support areas that must occur daily.	-	-	5%
3a	Intermittent Daily - Low	Client is able to maintain health and safety for short periods of time (i.e. Hours, but not days) OR needs supervision, training, or physical assistance with activities that typically occur daily, such as bathing, dressing, or taking medications.	-	-	10%
3b	Intermittent Daily - Moderate	Client requires supervision, training, or physical assistance with multiple tasks that typically occur daily OR requires frequent checks for health and safety or due to disruptions in routines.	2%	6%	8%
4	Close Proximity	Client requires support with a large number of activities that typically occur daily OR is able to maintain health and safety for very short periods-of-time (i.e. Less than 2 hours, if at all) AND requires occasional health and safety checks or support during overnight hours.	3%	13%	11%
5	Continuous Day and Continuous Night	Client is generally unable to maintain health and safety OR requires support with a large number of activities that occur daily or almost every day AND requires nighttime staff typically within the household.	95%	78%	52%
6	Community Protection *	Clients enrolled in DDD's community protection program are automatically assigned to this residential support level.	-	3%	13%

Clients must be enrolled in the Community Protection Program to be able to receive a residential level of six (6). (Data Source: RHC Assessment Project – September 2010)

Example 2: Range of Exceptional Medical & Behavior Support Needs

Medians, Interquartile and Full Ranges of Exceptional Medical and Behavioral Support Need Raw Scores by Residence Type

The three client groups overlap considerably in the range of scores on the Exceptional Medical Support Scale for the half of the clients falling between the 25th and the 75th percentile (interquartile range), represented as a rectangle on each line. The maximum score, the upward pointing arrow on each line, representing exceptional medical support needs is actually highest for clients receiving other community-based services than for those residing in institutions or community residential settings.

There is much less overlap between the three groups in their Exceptional Behavioral Support Needs based on the interquartile range of scores on this scale, the rectangles on each line in the chart. This is primarily due to the fact that clients served in institutions tend to have a much higher interquartile range than clients in the other two groups. In contrast, at least some of the clients living in either of the community settings appear to have higher support needs than those in institutions based on the highest scores, as represented by the upward pointing arrow on each line.

Source: Lucenko, Barb., He, Lijian., Mancuso, David.,(2010). "Assessment Findings for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Served in Institutional and Community Settings"
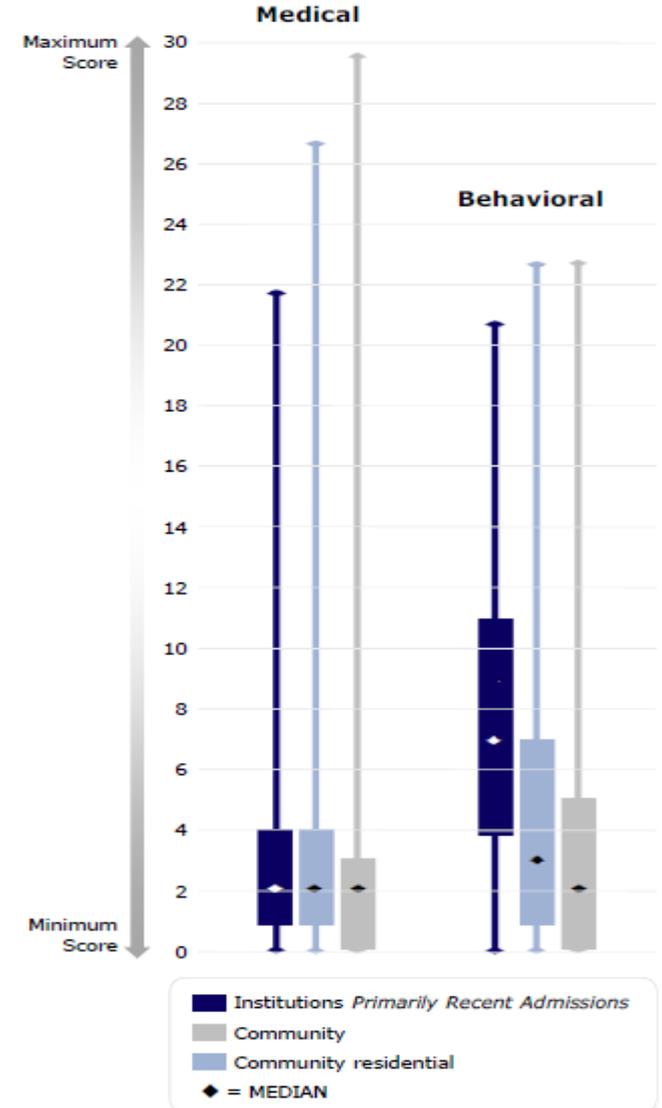
Example 3: SIS Subscale Comparisons

Medians, Interquartile and Full Ranges of SIS Standard Scale Scores by Residence Type
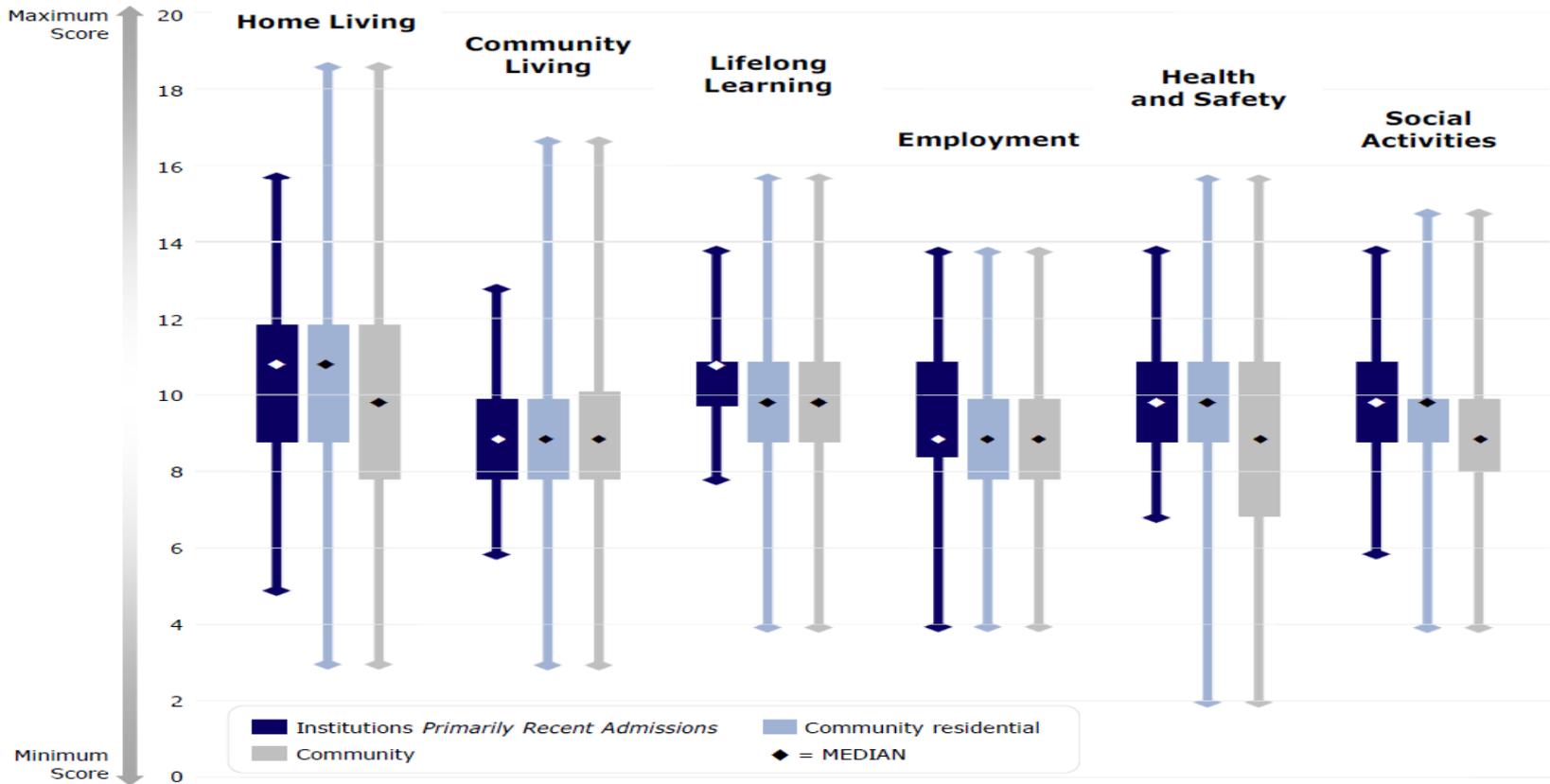
Source: Lucenko, Barb, He, Lijian, Mancuso, David, (2010). "Assessment Findings for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Served in Institutional and Community Settings"

Questions