

Supports Intensity Scale- Adults Sample Analysis

Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent
Living

Developmental Disabilities Services Division

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Goals of Payment Reform

Goals of Payment Reform:

- **Transparent:** Easily described and understood
- **Effective:** Create a payment model that supports people getting appropriate services to meet their needs
- **Equitable:** Resources are made available in a similar way across the state
- **Accountable:** State can identify what services were delivered to people and relate that to payment for services
- **Sustainable:** Pay providers reasonable rates for delivering services

Agenda for Today

Goals for This Meeting:

- Understand the SIS-A sample analysis- everyone has a different understanding and interest in the information we're talking about, please ask questions!
- Discuss the number of unique levels of support that are needed in VT and solicit recommendations about the number of levels of support so DAIL can make an informed decision.
- Discuss preferred language to describe the different levels of support and what makes up the qualitative descriptions in each level of support (this will be ongoing).

Reminder:

- The SIS-A will not dictate the services that will be provided, that will remain a decision for the individual, family/guardian, and staff as they engage in the person-centered planning process.
- Payment Reform is a budget neutral initiative, we have not been asked to cut budgets or reduce service delivery. If there is a reduction to a budget or services under a new payment model, there will be a way to ask for an exception or appeal a decision.

Parking Lot Items

Topics for Future Meetings:

- Compare the 1st and 2nd editions of the SIS-A.
- Examine how Supplemental Questions and Context fit into frameworks.
- Decide on preferred language to describe the different levels of support and define the qualitative descriptions in each level of support.
- Input on a future budget model, how it is informed by the SIS-A score, supplemental questions, and additional context- this will be informed by the Conflict-of-Interest work currently underway.
- Map an updated intake, eligibility, assessment, budget, exception request, and ISA planning process for new and existing consumers- this will be informed by the Conflict-of-Interest work currently underway.

Important Features of Payment Reform

Independent Assessment of Need

How are individual needs fairly assessed? How do we consider needs and context in addition to an assessment?

We're Focusing On Identifying Levels of Support, as Part of the Independent Assessment of Need

Resource Allocation

How do assessed needs translate into individualized, equitable services and funding?

Service Planning and Delivery

How is the individual service plan developed, implemented, and monitored?

Payment Model

How does the state pay for services?

Accountability

How does the state track what was provided and ensure needs are met?

What Does the SIS-A Assess?

SIS-A 1st Edition Overview:

Section 1: Exceptional Medical and Behavioral Support Needs:

- Assesses and documents extra support needed related to medical and behavioral support needs.
- There are 18 questions for medical support needs and 12 for behavioral support needs.

Section 2: Support Needs Index: Assesses and documents support needs for 57 different life activities using three measures:

- *Frequency* – how often the support is needed
- *Amount* – how much time is needed to provide support
- *Type* – what kind of support is needed

The Support Needs Index contains six subsections:

- Home Living Activities
- Community Living Activities
- Lifelong Learning Activities
- Employment Activities
- Health and Safety
- Social Activities

Section 3: Supplemental Protection and Advocacy Scale: Assesses various activities an individual performs to protect and advocate for themselves.

Sample Analysis

Dr. Colleen Kidney, Human Services Research Institute (HSRI)

Stephen Pawlowski, Burns & Associates