

LOCUS and ANSA Tools

By
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L.O.C.U.S.

L - Level

O - of

C - Care

U - Utilization

S - System

Brief Purpose

The American Association of Community Psychiatrists (AACP) developed the Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS) as a tool to provide mental health clinicians and service providers with a systematic approach to the assessment and determination of the service and support needs of individuals with mental health challenges.

LOCUS is used in Maine for the following purposes:

- Guide and support clinical decisions on the appropriate level and intensity of consumer supports and services
- Support and inform the development of Individualized Support Plans (ISPs)
- Inform and guide program and system planning and development activities
- Act as a component of eligibility criteria for specific MaineCare services

Who is Assessed?

- Intended for use with adults 18 years and older experiencing mental health challenges in the following service areas:
 - 1. All services provided through MaineCare Chapter II, Section 17;
 - 2. Residential Treatment, provided through MaineCare Section 97
 - 3. Psychiatric Nursing/Psychotropic Medication Services provided through MaineCare Chapter II, Section 40 Home Health Services

Who Completes the LOCUS?

- Completed by a Mental Health Professional (see MaineCare Benefits manual, Chapter II, Section 17.09), Community Integration/ACT Worker or MHRT-C
- Some of the licenses and qualifications of those who can use the LOCUS include CRC, LCPC, LCSW as well as APR-N or RNC within Psychiatric Nursing
- Can only utilize the LOCUS after receiving training and meeting the reliability criteria

When is the LOCUS Completed?

- Part of the service enrollment process
- After the initial assessment, consumer is reassessed on an annual basis and upon exit from services
- As of 7/1/13, consumers receiving Daily Living Support Services are assessed every six months
- Should reassess whenever major transitions or life changes warrant reassessment

Description of the LOCUS

- Used to derive level of service intensity appropriate to an individual's needs
- Includes two primary components:
 - 1) An assessment of the individual along six dimensions:
 - Risk of Harm
 - Functional Status
 - Medical, Addictive and Psychiatric Co-Morbidity
 - Recovery Environment (Stressors and Supports)
 - Treatment and Recovery History
 - Attitude and Engagement
 - 2) A structured decision making guide that uses assessment results to determine an appropriate Level of Care for Services

Service Levels

- LOCUS specifies six Service Levels
- Each assessment dimension is rated from least to most acute, using a five-point scale
- The rater, based on knowledge of the consumer, completes the assessment
- Sum of the individual dimension ratings generates the composite score

Dimension]	Dimension	Ratings (circle score)	Rating
I. Risk of Harm	1	2	3	4*	5	
II. Functional Status	1	2	3	4*	5	
III. Medical, Addictive and Psychiatric Co-Morbidity	1	2	3	4*	5	
IV. Recovery Environment						
A. Level of Stress	1	2	3	4	5	
B. Level of Support	1	2	3	4	5	
V. Treatment and Recovery History	1	2	3	4	5	
VI. Attitude and Engagement	1	2	3	4	5	
VI. Attitude and Engagement Composite LOCUS Score (Add numbers 2. LOCUS - Derived Level of Care Recon		column)				

LOCUS Score Sheet

ADULT LOCUS SCORING SHEET

Adult Level of Care Utilization System

Consumer Name:							
Client ID Number: DOB:							
LOCUS Administration: Baseline or Entry	z into Servi	ce 🛮 Anni	ıal				
☐ Exit from Service	Other	(Specify): _					
						Score	
1. Calculation of LOCUS Composite Sec	ore						
Dimension			Ratings (circle score		Rating	
I. Risk of Harm	1	2	3	4*	= 5		
II. Functional Status	1	2	3	4*	5		
III. Medical, Addictive and Psychiatric Co-Morbidity	1	2	3	4*	5		
IV. Recovery Environment							
A. Level of Stress	1	2	3	4	5		
B. Level of Support	1	2	3	4	5		
V. Treatment and Recovery History	1	2	3	4	5		
VI. Attitude and Engagement	1	2	3	4	5		
Composite LOCUS Score (Add numbers 2. LOCUS - Derived Level of Care Reco			ılt Determi	ination Grid,)		
Notes: Bolded Dimension Ratings indicate Indep regardless of the Composite Score.	endent Crit	teria (IC). 1	When IC is:	met, admissio	on to the de	esignated lev	el is required
*Risk of Harm: Assign to Level V if sca	le score is	4; Assign t	o Level VI	if scale score	is 5).		
*Functional Status and *Co-Occurring IVA (Level of Stress) and IVB (Level of							and the sum of
• Exception: If the functional Status and/o determines level of care.	r the Co-O	ccurring Sc	ore is 4 and	the sum of I	VA and IV	B is 2, the	Composite Score
Rater Signature & Creditionals			Rater I	D Number	55		

Determination Grid

			LOCUS Le	evel of Care		
			Determin	ation Grid		
Rating Dimensions				Level of Care		
<u> </u>	Recovery and Health Maintenance	Outpatient and/or Other Community Supports	Intensive Outpatient and/or Other Community Supports	Intensively Managed Home and Nonresidential Community Services	Up to 24 Hour Intensively Managed (Non-Secure) Community or Residential Services	Medically Managed Secure Residential or Inpatient Treatment or Community- Based Services of Equal Intensity
	(Level I)	(Level II)	(Level III)	(Level IV)	(Level V)	(Level VI)
I. Risk of Harm	2 or less	2 or less	3 or less	3 or less	(4) 3	(5) 4
II. Functional Status	2 or less	2 or less	3 or less	3 or less	(4)* 3	(5) 4
III. Medical Addictive and Psychiatric Co-Morbidity (Co-Occurring Conditions)	2 or less	2 or less	3 or less	3 or less	(4)* 3	(5) 4
Recovery Environmen	t		1			
IVA. Level of Stress	Sum of IVA+ IVB is 4 or less	Sum of IVA + IVB is 5 or less	Sum of IVA + IVB is 5 or less	3 or 4	4 or more	4 or more
IVB. Level of Support				3 or less	4 or more	4 or more
V. Treatment and Recovery History	2 or less	2 or less	3 or less	3 or 4	3 or more	4 or more
VI. Attitude and Engagement	2 or less	2 or less	3 or less	3 or 4	3 or more	4 or more
Composite Rating	10 to 13	14 to 16	17 to 19	20 to 22	23 to 27	28 or more

^{*}Indicates independent criteria. Requires admission to the designated level regardless of the Composite Score.

(Level of Functioning and Co-occurring Conditions (Co-Morbidity): Assign to Level V if scale score is a 4 and the sum of IVA (Level of Stress) and IVB (Level of Support) is greater than 2; Assign to Level VI if scale score > 2. Exception: If the functional Status and/or the Co-occurring Score is 4 and the sum of IVA and IVB is 2, composite score determines level of care.

⁽Level of Safety: Assign to Level V if scale score is 4; Assign to Level VI if scale score is 5)

Levels of Care Services

- Level I Recovery Maintenance and Health Management (Composite Rating 10 to 13)
- Level II Low Intensity Community Based Services (Composite Rating 14 to 16)
- Level III High Intensity Community Based Services (Composite Rating 17 to 19)
- Level IV Medically Monitored Non-Residential Services (Composite Rating 20 to 22)
- Level V Medically Monitored Residential Services (Composite Rating 23 to 27)
- Level VI Medically Monitored Managed Residential Services (Composite Rating 28 or more)

Training Process

- Two components:
 - 1. A three to four hour training session that includes instruction on the content and administration of the LOCUS, as well as hands on practice using the tools, and
 - 2. A reliability check in which trainees will score four vignettes using the LOCUS. Scores are then checked against pre-determined "gold standard" scores for each of the vignettes

Training Process (Continued)

- Agency trainers train within their sites
- DHHS' Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services is responsible for performing reliability checks and providing corrective feedback to trainees and site trainers

LOCUS 2010

- For complete details on using and scoring the LOCUS, refer to the LOCUS Adult Version 2010 Manual
- http://providersearch.mhnet.com/Portals/0/L
 OCUS.pdf

What is ANSA

- The Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment
- ANSA has demonstrated reliability and validity
- Multi-purpose tool for decision making
- You do not need to be a Clinician to administer the ANSA
- You do need to become Certified

Certification

- ANSA is owned by the Praed Foundation
- It is free to anyone to use. There is a cost of approximately \$50 per initial certification and annual recertification per year
- To be Certified take the ANSA training and pass the final exam
- Start at the very beginning to get the most benefit out of the site below
- http://canstraining.com/jlyons/ansa-adult-needsand-strengths-assessment

How Does the ANSA Work

The ANSA is easy to understand

Each item suggests a different pathway for service planning

There are 4 levels of each item

The ratings are from 0-3

How Does ANSA Work (Continued)

- For Needs:
 - 0= No evidence
 - 1= Watchful waiting/prevention
 - 2= Action
 - 3= Immediate and/or Intensive Action

- For Strengths
 - 0= Centerpiece strength
 - 1= Strength that you can use in planning
 - 2= Strength has been identified-must be built
 - 3= No strength identified

Service Planning

- Algorithms (formulas) can be developed
 - a. Treatment Planning for an individual
 - b. Level of care for an individual
 - c. Outcomes

ANSA's Potential

- ANSA is being used across the Country
- Indiana uses ANSA across all services
- Allegany County in Pennsylvania is using ANSA for Community Integration
- San Francisco use the ANSA for Service Planning
- Texas uses the ANSA for Level of Care

ANSA at SAMHS

- Collecting ANSA forms from all mental health residential care facilities contracted, funded and monitored through SAMHS.
 - a. At Admission
 - b. Annually (currently)
 - c. At Discharge
- We are in the testing phase

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