



# 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 (AACCP) 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

						Score
1. Calculation of LOCUS 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	
Composite LOCUS Score <i>(Add numbers in right column)</i>						
2. LOCUS - Derived Level of Care Recommendation: <i>(consult Determination Grid)</i>						

# LOCUS Score Sheet

## ADULT LOCUS SCORING SHEET

Adult Level of Care Utilization System

Consumer Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Assessment Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Client ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCUS Administration:  Baseline or Entry into Service  Annual

Exit from Service  Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Score

1. Calculation of LOCUS 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	
Composite LOCUS Score (Add numbers in right column)						
2. LOCUS - Derived Level of Care Recommendation: (consult Determination Grid)						

**Notes:**

- Bolded Dimension Ratings indicate Independent Criteria (IC). When IC is met, admission to the designated level is required regardless of the Composite Score.
- **\*Risk of Harm:** Assign to **Level V** if scale score is 4; Assign to **Level VI** if scale score is 5).
- **\*Functional Status 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 is 5
- **Exception:** If the functional Status and/or the Co-Occurring Score is 4 and the sum of IVA and IVB is 2, the Composite Score determines level of care.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rater Signature & Credentials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rater ID Number

# Determination Grid

LOCUS Level of Care Determination Grid						
Rating Dimensions	Level of Care					
	Recovery and Health Maintenance  (Level I)	Outpatient and/or Other Community Supports  (Level II)	Intensive Outpatient and/or Other Community Supports  (Level III)	Intensively Managed Home and Nonresidential Community Services  (Level IV)	Up to 24 Hour Intensively Managed (Non-Secure) Community or Residential Services  (Level V)	Medically Managed Secure Residential or Inpatient Treatment or Community-Based Services of Equal Intensity  (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
<b>Recovery Environment</b>						
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
<b>Composite Rating</b>	<b>10 to 13</b>	<b>14 to 16</b>	<b>17 to 19</b>	<b>20 to 22</b>	<b>23 to 27</b>	<b>28 or more</b>

\*Indicates independent criteria. Requires admission to the designated level regardless of the Composite Score.

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

(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.

# 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/LOCUS.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-needs-and-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

**ADULT NEEDS AND STRENGTHS ASSESSMENT (ANSA) COMPREHENSIVE – 18 +**

First Name		Middle Name		Last Name		Date	
/ /		<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F				- -	
DOB		Gender		Medicaid #		SSN	
Provider				Facility		# of Beds	
Person Completing Form				( ) -		Phone Number	

If you select an option of 1, 2 or 3 for a shaded category, complete the referenced module on the back of this form.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1: Complete the <i>Employment Module</i>          | 5: Complete the <i>Violence Module</i>     |
| 2: Complete the <i>Developmental Needs Module</i> | 6: Complete the <i>Sex Offender Module</i> |
| 3: Complete the <i>Trauma Module</i>              | 7: Complete the <i>Crime Module</i>        |
| 4: Complete the <i>Substance Use Module</i>       |  |

**LIFE DOMAIN FUNCTIONING**

0 = no evidence of problems      1 = history, mild  
2 = moderate                              3 = severe

Please select one option for each category

Categories	NA	0	1	2	3
Physical/Medical		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Employment (Module 1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Functioning		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recreational		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intellectual (Module 2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexuality		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Living Skills		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Residential Stability		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Legal		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sleep		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Self Care		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Decision-making		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medication Adherence		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transportation		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**STRENGTHS**

0 = centerpiece                              1 = useful  
2 = identified                                      3 = not yet identified

Please select one option for each category

Categories	NA	0	1	2	3
Family		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Connectedness		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Optimism		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talents / Interests		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Job History		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spiritual / Religious		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Connection		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Natural Supports		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Resiliency		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Resourcefulness		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**ACCULTURATION**

0 = no evidence                                      1 = minimal needs  
2 = moderate needs                                      3 = severe needs

Please select one option for each category

Categories	0	1	2	3
Language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ritual	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural Stress	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS**

0 = no evidence  
1 = history or sub-threshold, watch/prevent  
2 = causing problems, consistent with diagnosable disorder  
3 = causing severe/dangerous problems

Please select one option for each category

Categories	0	1	2	3
Psychosis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impulse Control	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Depression	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anxiety	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interpersonal Problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Antisocial Behavior	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adjustment to Trauma (Module 3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Anger Control	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Substance Use (Module 4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Eating Disturbance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**RISK BEHAVIORS**

0 = no evidence                                      1 = history, watch/prevent  
2 = recent, act    3 = acute, act immediately

Please select one option for each category

Categories	0	1	2	3
Suicide Risk	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Self Injurious	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Self Harm	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gambling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exploitation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Danger to Others (Module 5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual Aggression (Module 6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Criminal Behavior (Module 7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>