

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:

- Easy to understand and talk about
- People get the supports they need
- Everyone can get the same supports no matter where they live
- The State can show what services are happening and how money gets spent.
- Pay providers fair rates for their services

Agenda for Today

Goals for This Meeting:

- Understand the SIS-A sample analysis- please ask questions!
- Talk about the number of levels of support that we need in VT.
- Get feedback about the levels of support so DAIL can make a decision.
- Discuss the best words to describe the different levels of support.

Reminder:

- The SIS-A will not decide services. That is a decision for the individual, family/guardian, and staff.
- If anyone has a cut to their budget or services under a new payment model, there will be a way to ask for an exception. You can always appeal a decision.

Things to Talk About Later

There are important things we will talk about in the future, but not today:

Topics for Future Meetings:

- Make sure the 1st and 2nd editions of the SIS-A are similar.
- Talk about how Supplemental Questions and Context get added.
- Choose words to describe the different levels of support. Talk about the things that people have in common in each level of support.
- Talk about a new budget model. This will also include Conflict of Interest rules.
- Look at how new and current people get Developmental Services. Add the SIS A into the process. Update how budgets get created. Talk about how to ask for an exception. This will also include Conflict of Interest rules.

Important Pieces of Payment Reform

Independent Assessment of Need

How are individual needs assessed? How do we include other needs with the assessment?

What we are talking about today

Resource Allocation

How do needs turn into services and funding?

Service Planning and Delivery

How is the service plan developed, used, and checked?

Payment Model

How does the state pay for services?

Accountability

How does the state track the services provided and money spent?

What Does the SIS-A Ask?

SIS-A 1st Edition Sections:

Section 1: Exceptional Medical and Behavioral Support Needs

- Asks questions about extra support needed for medical and behavioral needs.
- There are 18 questions for medical support needs.
- There are 12 questions for behavioral support needs.

Section 2: Support Needs Index

Asks about needs for 57 different life activities using three measures:

- *Frequency* – how often you need the support
- *Amount* – how much time it takes to get the support
- *Type* – the kind of support you need

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

- Asks about activities an individual can do to protect and advocate for themselves.

Sample Analysis

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Stephen Pawlowski, Burns & Associates