



**COUNCIL OF
ACCOUNTABILITY
COURT JUDGES**

Celebrating 10 Years

2015-2025



CACJ Treatment Services Overview

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Learning Objectives



Recognize the core components of the treatment-related portions of the accountability court referral process



Understand essential treatment terms and tools (screening, assessment, ASAM, etc.) — enough to spot red flags and ask good questions



Know how CACJ Treatment Services can support courts and teams with training, technical assistance, and program quality monitoring

Core Components of The Accountability Court Screening Process

Legal Screening

Clinical Screening Process

- Clinical screening tool
- Risk and Needs Assessment (e.g. LS/CMI, YLS/CMI, DUI-RANT)
- Level of care tool
 - ASAM (as a screening tool)
 - Separate tool for MHC participants

Home Visit

Program Entry

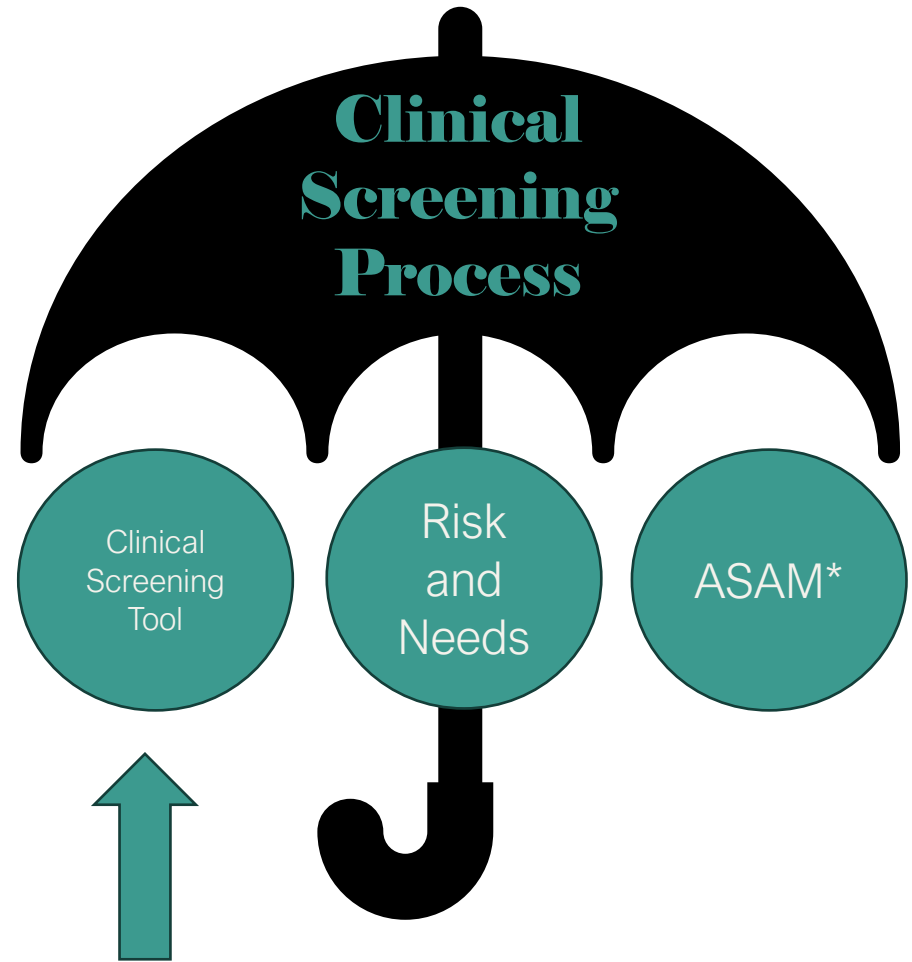
Clinical Assessment

- Biopsychosocial
- ASAM (for some providers)
- Many other options

Note on Terminology

- **Screening** is the process used to determine if a potential participant is eligible for an accountability court program, clinically as well as in other dimensions. This includes evaluating whether the court can meet the individual's treatment and supervision needs.
- In the accountability court context, **clinical screening** refers to the process of evaluating the possible presence of behavioral health issues, including substance use or mental health disorders. It helps identify whether the individual requires treatment, and if so, what type.
- Clinical **Assessment** is a process for defining the nature of a problem, determining diagnosis, and developing specific treatment recommendations for addressing the problem behavior or diagnosis. Assessment is ongoing and does not end at program admission.

Components of the Clinical Screening Process



*MHCs might not conduct ASAMs if they do not serve a predominantly co-occurring population. Also, the timing on the ASAM may vary, and some programs conduct it after clinical screening.

Purpose of a Clinical Screening Tool

- Screening is a process for evaluation for the possible presence of a particular problem.
- The outcome is normally a simple yes or no.
- Many screening instruments require little or no special training to administer.
- We are usually screening for the presence:
 - Substance Use Disorder
 - Mental Health Disorder
 - Trauma

Examples of Clinical Screening Tools

TCU Drug Screen 5
and Opioid
Supplement
(TCUDS)

Alcohol, Smoking
and Substance
Abuse Screening
Test (ASSIST)

Drug Use Screening
Tool and Self Report
Instrument (DAST –
10)

Simple Screening
Instrument for
Substance Abuse
(SSI-SA)

Mental Health
Screening Form – III

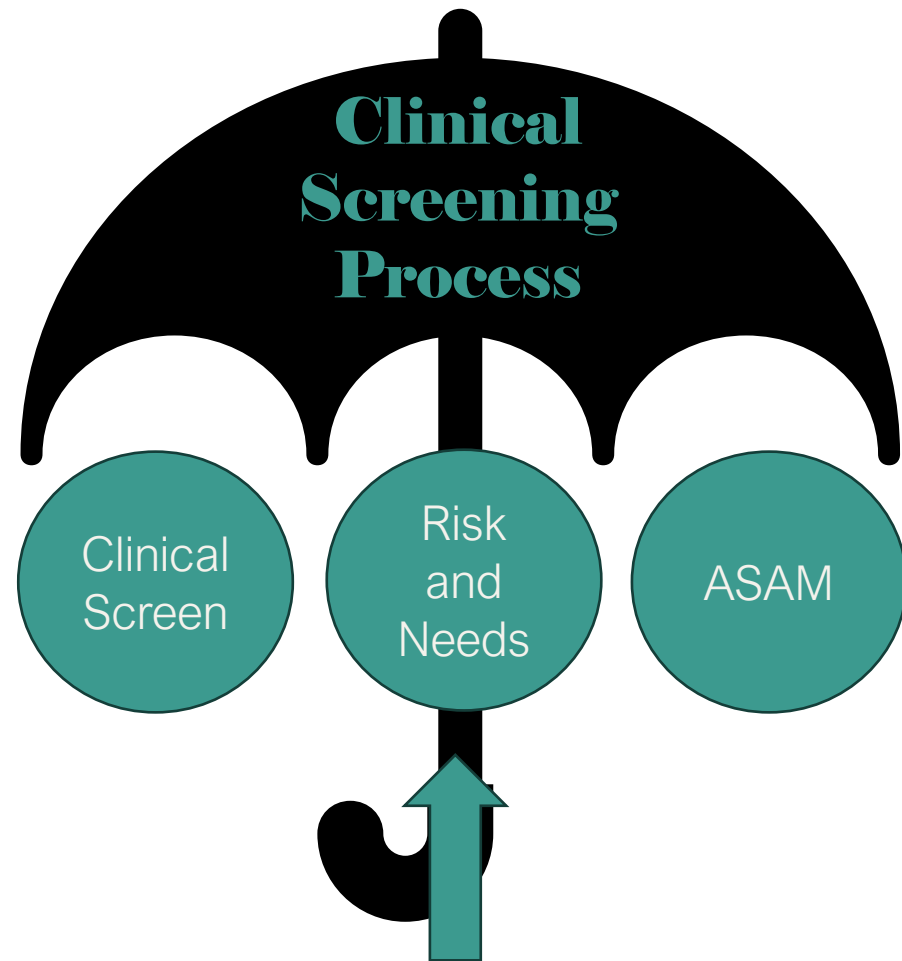
Symptom Checklist
90 – Revised (SCL-
90-R)

Trauma History
Screen (THS)

Adverse Childhood
Experiences (ACES)

Resource: SAMSHA
TIP 44

Components of the Clinical Screening Process



Risk and Needs Assessment

A risk/needs assessment is a structured tool used to guide decision-making in accountability courts

Helps determine the likelihood of future criminal behavior (risk).

Identifies individual needs like housing, employment and education.

Informs treatment planning, case management planning, supervision levels and support services.

Ensures participants are matched with the right intensity of services.

A RNA is not a substitute for a clinical screen or assessment

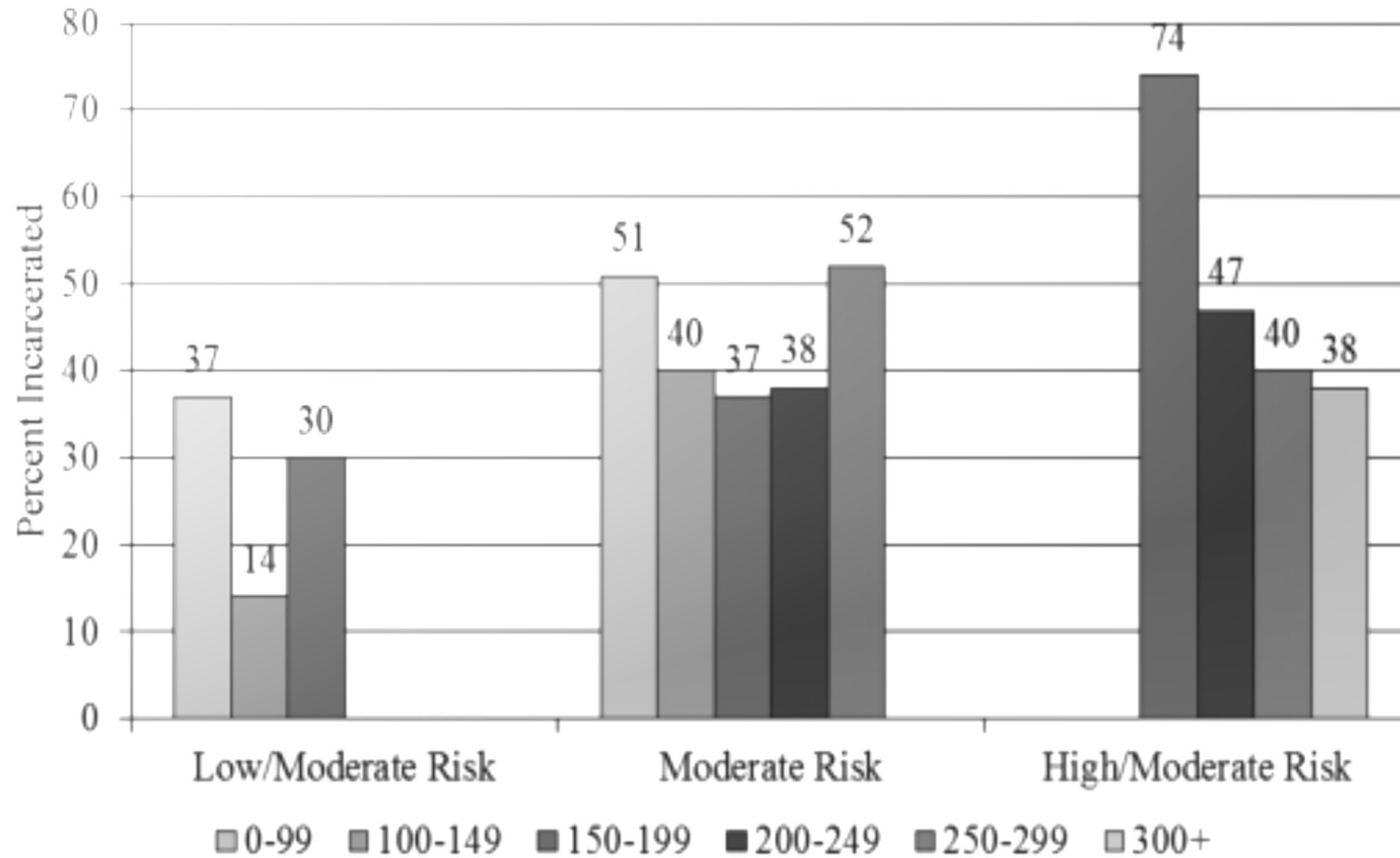
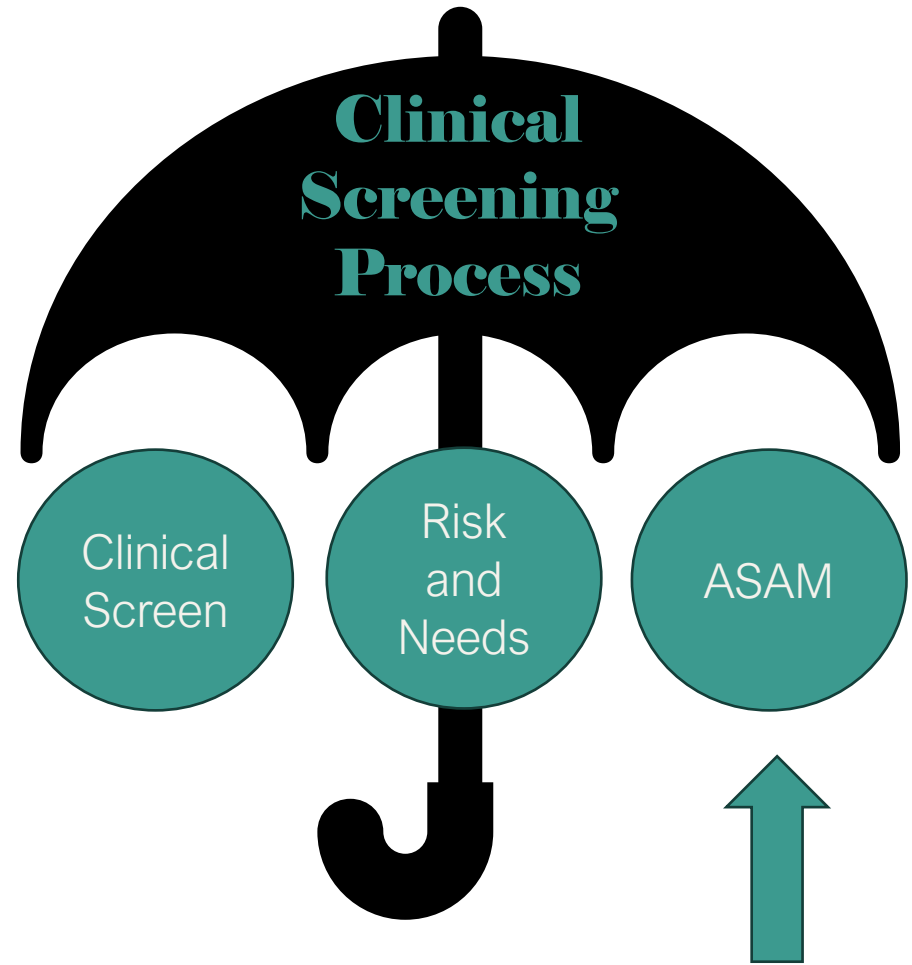


FIGURE 1 Rates of Recidivism by Refined Dosage Categories and Risk Level ($n = 903$)

Components of the Clinical Screening Process



ASAM: a framework for matching treatment to individual needs.

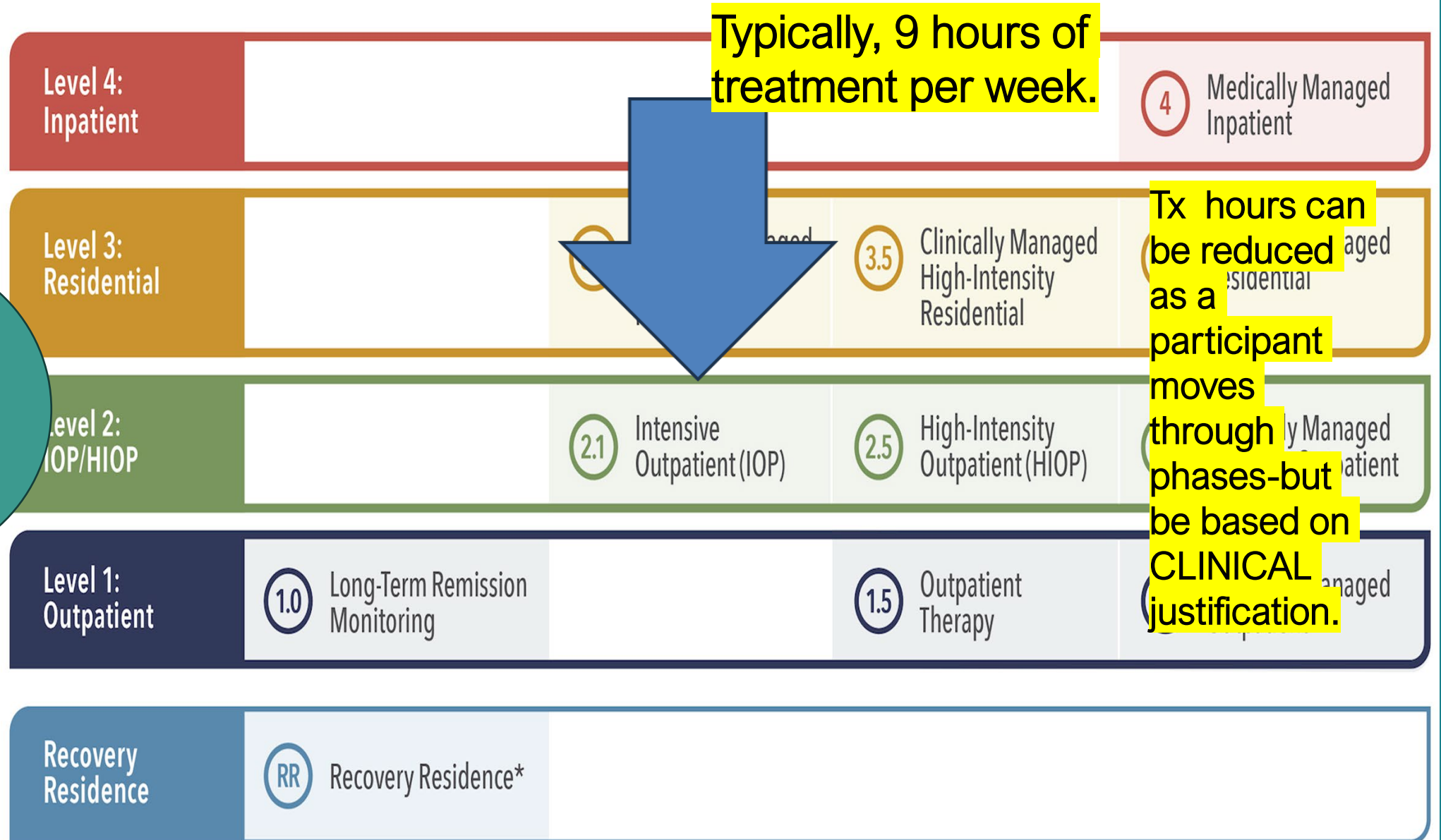
- American Society of Addiction Medicine
- Provides a national standard for assessing a person's substance use and related needs.
- Helps determine: *Level of Care (Continuum of Care)*
 - What kind of treatment someone needs
 - How intensive that treatment should be
- Used by clinicians to guide treatment decisions

📌 Why it matters: Helps match participants to the right level of care-not one size fits all treatment.



The ASAM Criteria Continuum of Care for Adult Addiction Treatment

ASAM and Treatment Dose



Clinical Assessment

Clinical Assessment

Assessment is a process for defining the nature of a problem, determining diagnosis, and developing specific treatment recommendations for addressing the problem behavior or diagnosis

Assessment is ongoing and does not end at program admission

Examples of Clinical Assessment Tools



Addiction Severity Index
(ASI)



Global Appraisal of
Needs (GAINs)



Biopsychosocial
Assessment

What is a biopsychosocial assessment?

- A biopsychosocial assessment looks at the whole person to understand what kind of support they need. It helps create a treatment plan based on someone's physical health, mental health and life circumstances.



What is a biopsychosocial assessment?



Biological

- Substance use history
- Current physical health
- Medications
- Withdrawal risks
- Medical concerns



Psychological

- Mental health history
- Current symptoms
- Past trauma
- Readiness for change



Social

- Housing and living environment
- Work, school and finances
- Support system

Clinical Screening vs. Clinical Assessment

SCREENING

- At intake, **prior** to acceptance into the program.
- Clinical screening tools are typically brief
- Yes/No questions
- Little training is usually needed (screening tool dependent)

ASSESSMENT

- Typically occurs after a participant has been formally accepted into the program.
- Explores the “WHY” of behavior
- Requires a licensed clinician

A group of people are sitting in a circle in a courtroom, engaged in a discussion. The setting is a formal courtroom with wooden paneling and a large pillar. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, white, serif font.

How can CACJ Treatment Services support your court?

Technical Assistance and Program Quality Monitoring

Fidelity Site Visits

- **Fidelity:** deliver treatment as designed
- Assess how well treatment services align with evidence-based practices (EBPs)
- Provide feedback and support for continuous quality improvement
- Help ensure participants receive services at the right dose and intensity

MAT Site Visits

- Evaluate access to and integration of Medication for Addiction Treatment (MAT)
- Support implementation of MAT in alignment with best practices and clinical needs

General Treatment TA

- We are here to answer your questions

Our goal is to help programs stay on track, support providers, and ensure participants receive the most effective care possible





Questions?

Thank you

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