

*Oregon ReBAR Project*  
Individual Assessment/Budget Resource Team

9/28/06

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## Assessment Tool Selection Criteria

### Background

The Team was charged with developing the criteria that Oregon should use in selecting an assessment tool upon which to base individual budget amounts and tie provider rates to individual support needs.

### Proposed Selection Criteria

The Team proposes the following criteria for the selection of an assessment tool:

- The assessment tool should directly measure the extent of an individual's support needs. The tool should not focus on deficits but rather on the extent of the support a person needs to accomplish every day activities in the community.
- The assessment tool should generate results that appropriately and credibly distinguish among the support needs of individuals.
- The tool should capture reasonably complete information about the person. It should not be necessary to add a large number of additional items to the tool.
- The tool should span individuals of all ages.
- People with disabilities and families should find the tool understandable and relevant.
- The tool should compile information that is sufficiently robust to support the applications that Oregon has in mind. This includes the development of individual budget allocations and associated elements in DD Comprehensive Services rate restructuring.
- The tool should be nationally-recognized and in reasonably wide-use across the country.
- The tool should have been developed and be maintained by an independent organization. This will ensure the integrity of the tool.
- The tool should capture information about high intensity/low frequency support needs.
- The tool should not dictate the types of services that will be employed to meet a person's support needs. The person-centered planning and ISP development processes are the proper venue for identifying the services and supports that will assist people to achieve their desired outcomes and address their support needs.
- The information captured by the tool should support and enhance the person-centered planning and ISP development processes.

- The assessment tool should exhibit sound psychometric properties. That is, it should have construct validity (the tool properly measures what it is designed to measure). The tool must be reliable, both in terms of inter-rater reliability and test/retest reliability. The tool should have been developed using rigorous methods. Sound psychometric properties are critical in order to ensure that the information obtained by administering the tool is trustworthy and credible for all stakeholders.
- Administration of the tool should not be excessively burdensome.
- The tool should not require administration by clinicians. It should be feasible to train community personnel to accurately and appropriately administer the tool. Training should not require an excessive amount of time.
- The tool must be affordable, both with respect to its initial acquisition costs and ongoing recurring costs.
- The tool should be able to take advantage of computer-based, web-based technologies. It should be feasible to link the data generated by the tool to other Oregon I/T systems.
- The tool should be sensitive to Oregon's service delivery infrastructure.
- The tool and/or other information sources should identify low incidence needs such as medical equipment and adaptive home modifications.
- The tool should include information from people who know the person well.