

In-Home Supportive Services Assessment and Authorization



PRESENTED BY:
John Galandines
IHSS Social Worker III

Victoria Tolbert
Division Director

Alameda County Social Services Agency
Department of
Adult, Aging, & Medi-cal Services

IHSS Social Worker Training



- Training provided by County Social Services
- Fundamental Training provided by IHSS Training Academy
 - IHSS 101
 - Assessment and Authorization
 - Special Areas in IHSS
 - Program Integrity/State Hearing
 - IHSS and Children
 - Medical Implications

IHSS Process Flow



- 1) Receive Request for IHSS from applicant
- 2) Request is screened by SW/Eligibility Screener
- 3) Initial Assessment at client's home
(or hospital, SNF, Rehab Center)
- 4) Annual Reassessment to determine continuing need for IHSS

IHSS Assessment Tools - continued



- **Annotated Assessment Criteria**
 - Criteria (includes general questions and observations during visit) to assist SW in determining the applicant/client's functional abilities/limitations

IHSS Assessment Tools



- **FUNCTIONAL INDEX SCALE (MPP-30-756)**
 - 1) Independent
 - 2) Verbal Assistance
 - 3) Some Human Help Needed
 - 4) Lots of Human Help Needed
 - 5) Cannot Perform

*cited from IHSS 101 training manual

IHSS Assessment Tools - continued



- ***Functional Index Scales Include:***

Routine Bed Baths

- Housework
- Meal Prep and Cleanup
- Routine Laundry
- Food Shopping and Errands
- Bowel, Bladder, and Menstrual Care
- Respiration
- Feeding
- Ambulation
- Transfers
- Bathing, Oral Hygiene, Grooming, and

- Bowel, Bladder, and Menstrual Care
- Dressing/Prosthetic Devices
- Memory
- Orientation
- Judgment

IHSS Assessment Tools - continued



- **Hourly Task Guidelines**

- General Guideline created for “time per task”
- Corresponds with Functional Ranking (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Created to establish uniformity in assessment with regards to “time per task”

Ex.

Bathing, Oral Hygiene, and Grooming	LOW (<i>hrs/week</i>)	HIGH (<i>hrs/week</i>)
Rank 2	0.50	1.92
Rank 3	1.27	3.15
Rank 4	2.35	4.08
Rank 5	3.00	5.10

Special Services



- **Protective Supervision**

- To safeguard against accident or hazard by observing and/or monitoring the behavior of non self-directing, confused, mentally impaired or mentally ill persons
- (ex. Developmental Delay, Dementia)

Special Services - continued



- **Paramedical Services**

- services that require authorization and training by a medical professional before they can be provided.
 - ✦ Wound Care
 - ✦ Injections
 - ✦ Tube Feeding
 - ✦ Suctioning
 - ✦ Etc.

Other Home-Visit Items



- **SOC873 – Health Care Certification Form**
 - Form completed by applicant/recipient's Licensed Health Care Practitioner which states applicant's abilities/limitations and certifies need for IHSS. (REQUIRED FORM)

Additional Assessment Domains



- **Medical Diagnoses**
- **Medications taken**
- **Alternative Resources**
 - Regional Center
 - Adult Day Care
 - MSSP
 - Home Health
 - Meals on Wheels
 - Paratransit Services
 - Meal Allowance

Additional Assessment Domains – cont.



- **Availability or Need for Durable Medical Equipment and other Assistive Devices**
- **Living Situation**
- **Household Composition**
- **Support System**



- **In short...**

**TONS OF INFORMATION NEEDED AND COLLECTED IN ORDER
TO ESTABLISH SERVICE PLAN AND AUTHORIZATION OF IHSS!**

Advantages of Current Assessment



- **Creates uniformity in assessment, especially in the event when a case is passed from one worker to another**
- **Not a Dx-driven program**
- **Gives SW autonomy to focus on relevant information**

Missing Components/Areas in Need of Improvement



- Easier to assess clients that have mostly physical limitations vs. clients with mental health dx
 - No clear tool to assess mental health needs or issues of Dementia
- Lack of ongoing monitoring/service planning
 - (Reassessment is done 1x/year or when there is a change in condition)
- Lack of Multi-Disciplinary Teams to convene and determine other needs and provide time for information sharing

Missing Components/Areas in Need of Improvement – cont.



- **Insufficient medical information**
- **Health Care Certification (SOC873) provides little information to assist SW with needs determination**
- **Information on client's participation in other community services is limited to services that may impact the IHSS hours. (Needed: Wraparound Services, etc.)**
- **Minimal collaboration with other services in place to maintain client's independence to live at home safely**

Missing Components/Areas in Need of Improvement – cont.



- No uniform BioPsychoSocial Assessment questions
- No risk assessment scale for risk of institutionalization
- No link to a data system that will allow for reporting on specific fields or risks
- Multiple docs used to assess special services
 - (i.e. Paramedical Services Needs Assessment)