

Assessment: Where Should We Focus Our Energy?

Each State’s approach to management of psychotropic medications for children and youth in foster care has multiple components, each essential to ensuring appropriate use and effective oversight. Because resources are limited, and each system has many competing obligations, it is necessary to identify where work can be focused to get the biggest “bang for the buck.” This tool is designed to help you assess where your efforts can achieve the greatest payoff. With that information, your team can decide where you want to focus your attention during your time at the summit.

Bring this completed tool with you to the summit! When your team gathers in Washington, DC, you will be asked to use this tool to come to consensus about the goals of your work at the summit. If you would like to convene as a team before the summit and use this tool to identify one or two priority areas for your work, you are welcome to do so.

Instructions: For each topic, think about (1) how much need there is for improvement, (2) how difficult it would be to implement changes, and (3) what degree of impact changes would have. Rate each on a scale of one to five, and add up the scores for each category. Higher scores (closer to 15) represent opportunities for greater payoff; these are areas where the need for change is great, implementation is easy, and impact is high. You may also include comments about other factors affecting your State’s work in each topic area.

Cross-System Collaboration (Building partnerships needed for success)

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
					TOTAL	

Comments:

System-wide Screening and Assessment to Identify Mental Health Needs

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
						TOTAL

Comments:

Increasing Access to Evidence-Based Treatments

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
						TOTAL

Comments:

Enhancing Systems for Informed and Shared Decision-Making (Consent and Assent)

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
TOTAL						

Comments:

Enhancing Medication Monitoring – Client Level

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
TOTAL						

Comments:

Enhancing Systems for Medication Monitoring – System Level

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
TOTAL						

Comments:

Increasing Use of Mental Health Expertise and Consultation to Inform Medication Practices at the Client and System Level

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
TOTAL						

Comments:

Developing Integrated Data Sharing Systems to Ensure Care Coordination and Effective Monitoring and Oversight

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
TOTAL						

Comments:

Ensuring All Stakeholders (e.g., children and youth, family members, practitioners, child welfare workers, etc.) have Access to Complete and Accurate Information

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
TOTAL						

Comments:

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Youth Engagement and Empowerment

						<i>Score</i>
Need for improvement	Little Need 1	2	3	4	High Need 5	
Ease of implementation	Hard 1	2	3	4	Easy 5	
Degree of impact	Low 1	2	3	4	High 5	
TOTAL						

Comments: