

Colorado Assessment Tool Development: LOC Validation Study Design Considerations

January 2015



Purpose of the Study

- Replicate current Level of Care (LOC) criteria using reliable items
- Minimize changes to who is determined to meet criteria
- Provide data to allow the Department to make potentially difficult choices



Problems With Using ULTC 100.2 to Determine LOC

- Potential overlap between ADL score of 1 vs. 2
- Cognitive and behavioral items are actually multiple items



ULTC 100.2 ADL Items – Response 1 vs. 2 Involve Subjective Determination

- 1=The client requires **oversight help or reminding**; can *bathe safely* without assistance or supervision, but may not be able to get into and out of the tub alone.
- 2=The client requires hands on help or **line of sight standby assistance** throughout bathing activities in order to maintain safety, adequate hygiene and skin integrity.
- Difference appears to come down to perception of whether this can be done safely



Subjectivity in Other ADLs

- Dressing: Whether individual needs “significant” amounts of verbal assistance
- Toileting: Safety determination and whether participant or environment is “clean”
- Mobility: Safety
- Transferring: Safety
- Eating: Safety (however, more clearly defined), however includes eating food that needs to be cut
 - People on soft food diets may or may not meet criteria



CARE Item ADL Response Categories

- Would not count towards LOC:
 - 1. Independent- Participant completes the activity by him/herself with no assistance from helper
 - 2. Setup or clean-up assistance- helper sets up or cleans up, Participant completes activity. helper assists only prior to or following the activity.
- May count towards LOC (study will help determine):
 - 3. Supervision or touching assistance- helper provides verbal cues or touching/steadying assistance as Participant completes activity. assistance may be provided throughout the activity or intermittently.
 - 4. Partial/moderate assistance- helper does less than half the effort. helper lifts, holds, or supports trunk or limbs, but provides less than half the effort.



CARE Item ADL Response Categories (Contd.)

- Clearly would count towards LOC:
 - 5. Substantial/maximal assistance- helper does more than half the effort. Helper lifts or holds trunk or limbs and provides more than half the effort.
 - 6. Dependent- helper does all of the effort. Participant does none of the effort to complete the task.
- Need additional information:
 - 7. Activity not attempted



Behaviors Eligibility Threshold– 2 Criteria

- The client exhibits inappropriate behaviors that put self, others or property **at risk**.
- The client frequently requires **more than verbal redirection** to interrupt inappropriate behaviors.



Potential CARE Items to Recreate Behaviors Threshold

- Disruptive or dangerous behavioral symptoms not directed towards others, including self-injurious behaviors (e.g., hitting or scratching self, attempts to pull out IVs, pacing)
- Physical behavioral symptoms directed toward others (e.g., hitting, kicking, pushing).
- Verbal behavioral symptoms directed towards others (e.g., threatening, screaming at others).
 - Questionable whether this would constitute “at risk.”



Memory/Cognition Eligibility Threshold– 4 criteria

- The client requires consistent and ongoing reminding and assistance with planning;
- Or requires regular assistance with adjusting to both new and familiar routines, including regular monitoring and/or supervision;
- Or is unable to make safe decisions;
- Or cannot make his/her basic needs known.



Potential CARE items to Recreate the Memory/Cognition Threshold

- Questions for assessor to preliminarily assess participant's memory and cognitive ability
 - Ability to remember three words immediately after hearing them and after answering other questions
 - Ability to recall year, month, and day of the week



Potential CARE items to Recreate the Memory/Cognition Threshold (contd.)

- Does the participant have any difficulty with memory (e.g., retain relevant functional information), attention (e.g., ability to stay focused on task), problem solving, planning, organizing or judgment?
- If yes, supplemental question(s) on Memory, Attention, Problem Solving, Planning Organizing, and/or Judgment depending on answer to 1.



Supplement CARE with the Following Memory/Cognition Items (contd.)

- Ability to make decisions regarding daily tasks, such as picking out an outfit, deciding when and what to eat, or selecting what to do throughout the day.
- Will also ask follow-up to ULTC100.2 item to figure out which of 4 criteria is/are the actual trigger(s)



3 Samples of Approximately 150 Each

➤ CCB

- ICF-IID
- SLS
- DD

➤ SEP

- Non-IDD: NF, BI, EBD, SCI
- Community Mental Health Waiver



Requirements for Pilot Assessors

- Participate in web-enabled training (approximately 1 to 2 hours)
- Complete supplemental information when conducting ULTC100.2 via fillable pdf
- Participation in pilot is voluntary
 - Desire a range of locations and agencies
- Payment of \$40 per assessment



Pilot Process

- Will notify when we reach 150 quota for each group
- Will provide answers to any questions via email/telephone



Analyses Plans

- Try to recreate current LOC using different variations of the new items
- Analysis will focus on number of and type of people who switch eligibility
- Will examine both item by item(s) and eligibility as a whole



Discussion About Recruiting Pilot Workers

- Volunteers

