

Formal Agenda

DBHDS SIS-A 2nd Edition Advisory Group

3:00PM-5:00PM – Monday October 23, 2023

Online Zoom Meeting (see link below)

AGENDA

- 3:00 Welcome and Housekeeping
- 3:05 DBHDS background and address questions
- 3:15 Using the SIS-A for support levels
- 3:30 Assessment qualities
- 3:50 Assessment feedback
- 4:10 Looking at national SIS-A data and steps for updating the support levels
- 4:35 Rate tiers and possible updates
- 4:45 Reimbursement rate feedback
- 4:50 Next steps, question/feedback form, and survey
- 5:00 Adjournment

Zoom Meeting Information

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85851306602>

Or One tap mobile :

+17193594580,,85851306602# US

+17207072699,,85851306602# US (Denver)

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 720 707 2699 US (Denver)

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

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Webinar ID: 858 5130 6602

International numbers available: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kehxxoZwz9>



Human Services
Research Institute

Virginia SIS-A 2nd Edition Advisory Group

October 2023

Housekeeping

Some of the people in this meeting are advisory group members who will participate in the discussion. Everyone else is welcome to type questions in the chat or send your questions to SIS@dbhds.virginia.gov.

Everyone's participation is voluntary. You do not need to participate in any discussion, polls, or chats.

This meeting is hosted by HSRI and may not reflect the views of Virginia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services (DBHDS).

This meeting is being recorded, as a tool for advisory group members to watch later if they had to miss today.

Please mute yourself when you are not talking.

Please allow all advisory group members the opportunity to speak up!

Working Collaboratively

- Be solution-focused and provide supportive and constructive feedback. Let's keep focused on the end goal of updating the support levels/rate tiers
- Respect and listen, don't blame
- Assume good intentions
- When sharing verbally, try to keep response brief and wait, so that others have time to speak. If you want to share more, you can always type in the chat, add comments to the form, e-mail, or request a separate meeting to discuss
- This is an interactive meeting! We encourage you to participate!



Agenda



DBHDS Background



Supports Intensity Scale – Adult Version



Looking at National Data & Rates



Next Steps

In the Advisory Group:

- You will hear about our upcoming plans for this project
- You will have opportunities to provide ideas and feedback about this project and what we recommend
- You can ask questions
- You will review our analysis and recommendations
- You can help us make sure that our plans work for people receiving services, their families, advocates, support coordinators, and providers

We will meet monthly from September 2023 through April 2024 for 90 minutes to 2 hours per meeting



DBHDS Background

Background of Support Level/Rate Tiers

- In 2013, HSRI and our partners, Burns & Associates, were contracted to work with VA DBHDS to develop support levels and rate tiers for people using waiver services on all three waivers
- We developed a support level model that relies on results from the Supports Intensity Scale[®] (SIS[®]), supplemental questions, and a document review verification process (for some people) to assign each person to a support level
- For some services Support Levels are associated with a rate tiers. Support levels are not used for individual budgets.

DBHDS Selected the SIS to:

- Make sure that rates are matched to people's support needs
- Allow for fair and equitable rates across the state
- Have more meaningful information about support needs for person centered planning
- Ensure that support levels and rate tiers match what is in the person's plan (documented medical, behavioral, and other supports)
- Use data for analysis

The SIS helps move DBHDS towards its aims!

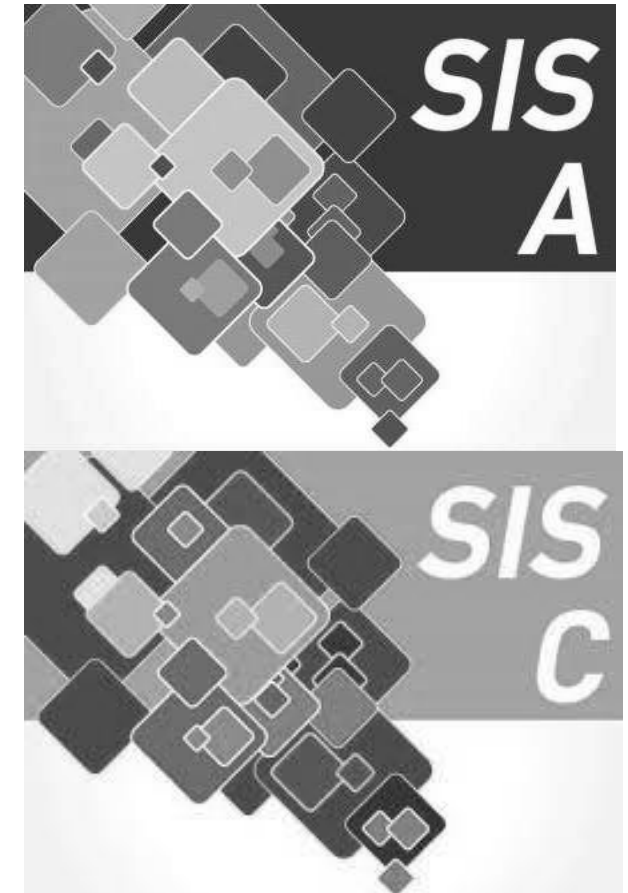




Supports Intensity Scale – Adult Version®

Support Levels Using the SIS

- Supports Intensity Scale® (SIS) Adult (SIS-A) or Child (SIS-C)
- Each person over 16 takes a SIS-A assessment, and some children under 16 take a SIS-C assessment
- SIS-A measures support needed for home living, community living, lifelong learning, employment, health and safety, social activities, protection & advocacy, medical needs, and behavioral needs.
- SIS-C measures support needed for home living, community & neighborhood, school participation, school learning, health & safety, social activities, and advocacy, medical needs, and behavioral needs.
- SIS scores are used to assign everyone who takes a SIS assessment a support level



What Makes an Assessment “Good”?



It's developed for measuring support needs



It has sound psychometric properties, such as validity and reliability



Assessors participate in rigorous training



Comprehensive and accurate data can be collected



It is sustainable to use the assessment overtime

Additional Assessment Qualities

Includes
necessary
content

Person-centered,
strengths-based

Respectful of
diverse cultures

Quantitative,
scorable, summ-
able

Quality of
development and
testing

Demonstrated
use for the
purpose (e.g.,
tiers)

Technological
infrastructure
available

Ongoing testing,
use, reputation

Stakeholder
approval

Feasibility of use
(e.g., cost)

Benefits of Using the SIS

- The SIS has strong psychometric properties and has demonstrated strong validity and reliability. Validity was tested in 2004, 2015, and 2023. This year it was normed using over 150,000 assessments of culturally diverse people with IDD
- The SIS is strengths-based and does not rely on disability diagnosis for determining need. The SIS focuses on the person's support needs
- The SIS includes a rigorous training protocol
- SISOnline compiles accurate SIS information for use and analysis
- Use of the SIS has been documented in peer reviewed journals around the world
- The SIS has also been translated into numerous languages

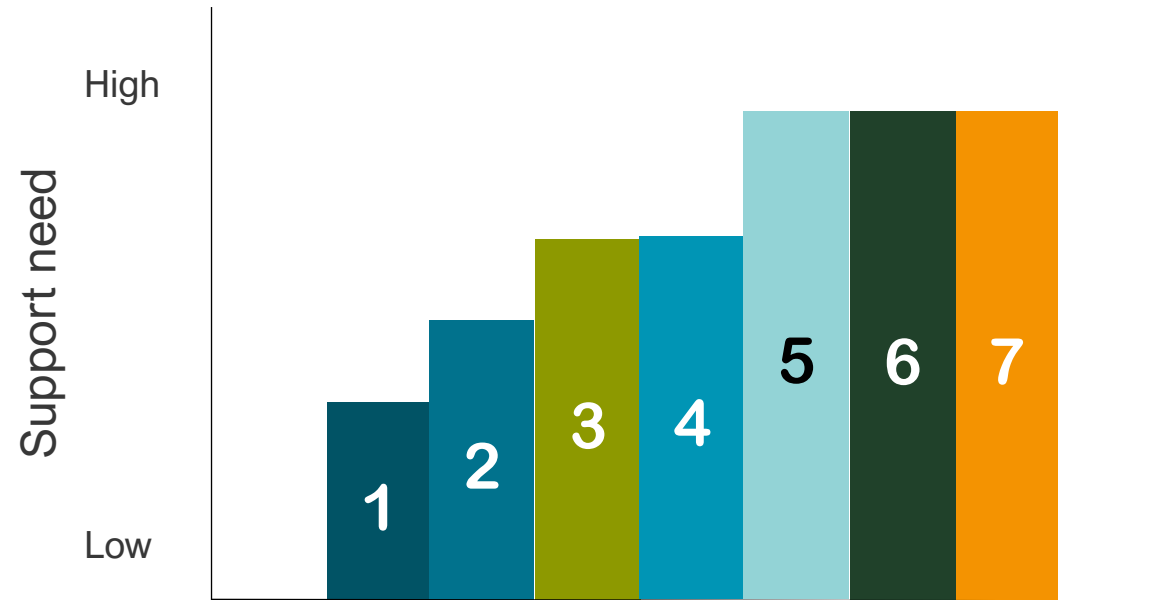


Looking at National Data & Rates

The SIS-A 2nd Edition

- DBHDS is going to continue to use the SIS and will have to update the support level/rate tier model
- The SIS-A is changing, the changes are called the SIS-A 2nd Edition
 - There are changes to demographic section
 - There are 6 new medical questions and adjustments to others
 - There is 1 new behavioral question
 - The scoring is different (standard scores)
 - Some sections and subsections have been renamed
 - Some of the questions have been reworded
- These changes require us to update the current support levels/rate tiers.
- The SIS-A 2nd Edition will not be used until this project is complete, and the framework is updated.

Current 7 Levels



Key Considerations for new Framework Development

1

What is the most appropriate number of levels for a general support needs framework?

2

Which subsections of the SIS should be used?

3

What scores best create levels that include individuals who are similar to one another and different from individuals in other levels?

Framework Requirements

Statistical fit

Groups are
different from
one another

Individuals
assigned to
groups from low
to high need

Needs align with
what is known
about the
population

Allows for
criteria using
sum scores

6 Level Framework

- 1 Low general support need, no extraordinary medical or behavioral needs
- 2 Moderate general support need, no extraordinary medical or behavioral needs
- 3 High general support need, no extraordinary medical or behavioral needs
- 4 Very high general support need, no extraordinary medical or behavioral needs
- 5 Extraordinary medical support need
- 6 Extraordinary behavioral support need

5 Level Framework

A Low general support need, no extraordinary medical or behavioral needs

B Moderate general support need, no extraordinary medical or behavioral needs

C High general support need, no extraordinary medical or behavioral needs








D Extraordinary medical support need

E Extraordinary behavioral support need

Steps for Updating the Support Levels/Rate Tiers

1. Determined initial SIS-A support levels using national SIS-A dataset
2. Use sample DBHDS data to repeat analyses and confirm SIS-A analysis
3. Confirm criteria for DBHDS using analysis and any additional criteria
4. Adapt/develop criteria for medical and behavioral changes
5. Consider any changes to Supplemental Questions in the model
6. Conduct record review
7. Plan to evaluate framework in future

Support Levels are matched to Rate Tiers

Reimbursement Tier 1		Mild Support Needs Individuals have some need for support, including little to no support need for medical and behavioral challenges. They can manage many aspects of their lives independently or with little assistance.
Reimbursement Tier 2		Moderate Support Needs Individuals have modest or moderate support needs, but little to no need for medical and behavioral supports. They need more support than those in Level 1, but may have minimal needs in some life areas.
Reimbursement Tier 3		Mild/Moderate Support Needs with Some Behavioral Support Needs Individuals have little to moderate support needs as in Levels 1 and 2. They also have an increased, but not significant, support needed due to behavioral challenges.
		Moderate to High Support Needs Individuals have moderate to high need for support. They may have behavioral support needs that are not significant but range from none to above average.
Reimbursement Tier 4		Maximum Support Needs Individuals have high to maximum personal care and/or medical support needs. They may have behavioral support needs that are not significant but range from none to above average.
		Intensive Medical Support Needs Individuals have intensive need for medical support but also may have similar support needs to individuals in Level 5. They may have some need for support due to behavior that is not significant.
		Intensive Behavioral Support Needs Individuals have intensive behavioral challenges, regardless of their support needs to complete daily activities or for medical conditions. These adults typically need significantly enhanced supports due to behavior.

Potential Tiered Rate Changes

- DBHDS is *not* evaluating rate model cost assumptions
- However, after initial work is complete on the development of the support levels, the potential need for other changes to the rate tiers will be evaluated
 - How rate tiers align to support levels (e.g., there may be fewer support levels, but the same number of tiers)
 - Changes to the staffing assumptions in the rate models
 - For example, if the number of individuals in Tier 1 were to increase, that would suggest higher average needs in this group (because individuals formerly in a higher tier are now in Tier 1), necessitating more staffing
 - Or, if the number of individuals in Tier 4 were to increase, that would suggest lower average needs in this group (because individuals formerly in a lower tier are now in Tier 4), reducing staffing needs
- Following the development of the support levels, we may determine that there are no changes needed to the existing reimbursement rates.



Next Steps

Timeline



April-June 2023

- Begin Contract Work
- Background research

July-Sept. 2023

- Establish Advisory Group
- Key Informant Interviews
- Begin data analysis

Oct.-December

- Continue Advisory Group meetings
- 1st Engagement Sessions
- Complete data analysis

Jan.-April 2023

- Continue Advisory Group meetings
- 2nd Engagement Sessions
- Test proposed changes
- Recommend final changes
- Complete implementation & communication plan

Upcoming Outreach

We have 3 meetings coming up for Service Recipients & Families', Support Coordinators, and Providers

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions to project team
- Overview of current support levels/tiered rates
- Changes to the SIS-A
- Overview of project
- Q&A
- Feedback from attendees on what is working well and what changes should be considered
- Next steps and survey
- Adjournment

Upcoming Outreach

Service Recipients & Families

November 16th, 2023

2:00-3:45ET

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86798659737>

Support Coordinators

November 16th, 2023

10:00-11:45ET

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88919982957>

Providers

November 15th, 2023

11:00-12:45ET

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84440901176>

What's Next?



- If you're listening in and have used your e-mail for this meeting, we'll add your e-mail to the next meeting invite (optional, of course)
- If you want to ask a question or share feedback, please use this link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc21y4XpMleJZ9AGWtPuiR8c1PeZr5-luU8raVtq3JYmwsug/viewform?usp=sf_link or scan for the form.



Questions/Comments



Human Services
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Thank you!

Please use our form for questions/feedback. If you need help related to these meetings reach out Jodi Franck jfranck@hsri.org

If you need help from DBHDS, please e-mail SIS@dbhds.virginia.gov




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