

**Technical Questions RE: Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)**

**Final**

**1. How often will the SIS be administered?**

Response

SIS interview will be conducted with every adult receiving Developmental Disabilities Services every three years. In addition, interviews should be conducted with anyone receiving services who has a significant life change that may change the supports needed for the person to be successful.

**2. How often should the SIS be administered if someone has gradually increasing needs for support due to a condition such as dementia?**

Response

The interdisciplinary team (IDT) will need to decide whether the person has experienced a significant life change in order to determine whether another SIS should be administered.

**3. Is there a limit on the number of respondents who can be present at a SIS interview?**

Response

There is no set limit on the number of respondents. However, the interviewer is expected to select a small number of people who know the individual well as respondents. As a rule of thumb, it is difficult to conduct an efficient interview with more than four or five people, including the consumer of services.

**4. Is there a minimum number of respondents needed in order to conduct a SIS interview?**

Response

The interviewer is responsible for making sure there are enough respondents present to ensure that accurate information about the individual can be obtained in all the areas addressed by the SIS.

**5. The SIS is currently being used with people receiving Comprehensive Services. Will the SIS be used for people receiving Supported Living Services?**

Response

Yes. The SIS will be used for people in both Comprehensive and Supported Living Services.

**6. What is SIS Online?**

Response

SIS Online is a web-based database for storing SIS interview results. The Colorado Division for Developmental Disabilities has purchased space on SIS Online to store the results of all SIS interviews conducted with people with developmental disabilities.

**7. Who has access to the information stored in SIS Online?**

Response

Each Community Centered Board, Regional Center and the Division for Developmental Disabilities have access to the SIS Online information. The CCBs and RCs each have access to all the SIS Online records for their own CCB or RC. The Division for Developmental Disabilities has access to all the SIS Online records for the state.

**8. Has the SIS ever been considered for use in determining eligibility?**

Response

No. The SIS will be used to provide support needs information for Individualized Plans and to help determine funding levels for people being served in Comprehensive and Supported Living Services.

**9. Why haven't the CCBs asked for permission from guardians or family members before conducting SIS interviews?**

Response

A SIS assessment is required for all adults receiving or seeking Medicaid Waiver Comprehensive services from Colorado's developmental disabilities system. Since SIS results will be used, in part, to determine Comprehensive rate levels the assessment is mandatory. An individual will not be able to receive Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver services after October 2007 without a prior SIS assessment.

**10. What should CCBs/RCs do with the completed SIS Interview Form and SIS Colorado Addendum Form after the information on those forms has been entered in SIS Online?**

Response

Those documents are part of the individual's record and should be treated in the same way that other similar documents are treated. That means CCBs and RCs should follow current regulations and policies about where and how long to keep such documents.