

Policy Bulletin

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American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) **Patient Placement Criteria**

In the 2010-2015 Grant Agreement, Treatment Manual Section 10.03 (Assessment), Pages 10.03.1-2 has been revised to read:

Level of Care (LOC) assessment and placement determination:

LOC assessment and placement determination

LOC assessment is defined as a face-to-face interview with the adolescent to ascertain treatment needs based on the degree and severity of alcohol and other drug use/abuse through the development of a comprehensive confidential personal history, including significant medical, social, occupational, educational, and family information. A LOC assessment must be completed within seven calendar days from the date of initial contact with the individual. If this time frame is not met, the reason must be documented. A LOC assessment must be completed in its entirety in one session prior to referring the individual to the appropriate level of care, except when the individual is in need of detox. The assessor, not the adolescent, must complete the clinical portions of the assessment tool. Any demographic information and/or support data gathered prior to the face-to-face interview must be reviewed by the clinician or case manager with the client during the LOC assessment.

Once an assessment is completed, it will be valid for a period of six months. The six-month time frame does not pertain to active clients. This applies to adolescents who have never engaged in treatment after being assessed or who have been discharged and are seeking to reinitiate services. If an adolescent requests to reinitiate services prior to the end of the six-month period, the case manager may update the most recent assessment in lieu of completing a new assessment; however, a new Adolescent Placement Summary Sheet (APSS) must be completed using the ASAM Patient Placement Criteria.

If the SCA limits the number of LOC assessments or admissions to treatment, the limitations must be expressed in written policy and all adolescents must sign off to indicate that they have been notified of the limitations, in writing.

After gathering the necessary information through the assessment process, the appropriate level of care, type of service, length of stay, and the most appropriate facility can be determined. For adolescents, the LOC determination must be made in accordance with the most recent edition of the ASAM Patient Placement Criteria.

The APSS must be completed accurately to reflect the recommendation of the assessor based on ASAM criteria. The APSS must be based on what LOC the client actually needs and not what funding is or is not available for a specific LOC or what LOC the client or the referral source is requesting.

The APSS can be found in Appendix E.

This change has been made in the Treatment Manual on the Department's Communicator and is effective immediately.