

Implementation of Staged Screening and Assessment (SS&A) process for addiction

Objectives

- Improve the screening and assessment of clients receiving substance use services through the implementation of a staged protocol across Ontario.
- Support sustainable implementation through coaching, fidelity monitoring and evaluation.

Value for the system

- A consistent, evidence-based approach to service.
- Enhanced ability to identify and assess co-occurring mental health issues.
- Comprehensive assessment and detailed, integrated reports support matching to a treatment setting with appropriate resource intensity.
- Detailed client profiles based on information generated through assessment can be used for gap analysis and planning at the agency and system level.
- High potential for outcome monitoring.

Supported implementation

This evidence-based Staged Screening and Assessment (SS&A) process is being rolled out across Ontario using implementation science, a purposeful and effective framework for implementing new practices. The implementation process will include:

- Development of implementation plans;
- Training, certification and capacity building for the new process;
- Coaching support for agency implementation; and
- Opportunity to provide feedback on the implementation and related supports through participation on implementation teams, contributing to evaluation.



For more information go to:

<http://improvingsystems.ca/projects/provincial-screening-and-assessment>

Staged Screening and Assessment (SS&A)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Staged Screening and Assessment (SS&A) Process?

The SS&A process involves an evidence-based, staged approach for screening and assessment of individuals accessing service within the addiction treatment system.

This staged approach responds to the need for an integrated process that is effective at:

- Identifying co-occurring mental health problems;
- Providing better matching to the appropriate level of service; and
- Creating a solid foundation for treatment planning.

Who is involved?

The process is being implemented within Ministry of Health (MOH) agencies that are funded to provide addiction services. Implementation is currently underway in 150+ agencies across the Province of Ontario.

What supports are available?

The Provincial System Support Program (PSSP) at CAMH is the intermediary in the SS&A roll out across the Province of Ontario. Implementation, training, coaching and evaluation support is provided by PSSP Implementation Specialists.

The tools used in the Staged Screening and Assessment (SS&A) process are as follows:

1st Stage Screener:
GAIN-SS

2nd Stage Screener:
MMS (18+) or POSIT (12-17)

1st Stage Assessment:
GAIN Q3 MI ONT

How is it being implemented?

Implementation Science (IS), a proven approach to moving evidence-based research into practice to improve client outcomes, will be employed for the roll out of the new staged screening and assessment process. IS involves purposeful, planned and active implementation, supporting fidelity and sustainability. The supports for training, coaching and fidelity monitoring available through IS increase an organization and staff's ability to effectively implement and sustain the new practices.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more detailed information regarding the Staged Screening and Assessment (SS&A) process and provincial implementation, please contact:

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