



GET TO KNOW “PATHS”

- PATHS stands for “Personalized Assessment Tool for Health Services.” It is the replacement for the IAM Assessment and was created based on input from individuals and families we support, and Care Coordinators.
- All Care Coordination Organizations are required to have a Comprehensive Assessment that informs the Life Plan. When we used MediSked for our Electronic Health Record system, we used the IAM Assessment. When we changed the system to CORE Cx360, we needed a new Comprehensive Assessment.
- PATHS replaces the IAM assessment. We do not use the IAM assessment anymore, so this is not an additional assessment.
- Like the IAM, the PATHS will be completed each year before the annual Life Plan, or more often if changes in a person’s life indicate it is needed.

Feedback we have received from individuals and families is that the PATHS is much less overwhelming than the IAM, and that there are many improvements. For example:

- There are fewer total questions.
- Questions are only asked if they apply to the person by age and gender. (E.g.: colonoscopy, pap smear, transition from high school).
- Questions are straightforward; it is easier for to understand what is being asked.
- A Care Coordinator can ask questions in an order that makes sense for the conversation, there is no required order.
- All answers to the questions do not automatically create a goal in the Life Plan. This helps figure out what are the most important goals to be included for the year.
- Questions cover all areas of a person’s life (Social Determinants of Health).
- Technology issues with the PATHS are limited because the assessment is built into the Electronic Health Record.
- Several questions have space for the Care Coordinator to explain answers. For example: Why a person can be left alone in a car for a period of time, but not left home alone. When the person is home alone, he cannot access certain needs due to stairs and mobility challenges.
- The assessment clearly documents socioeconomic concerns, (concerns that come from where a person works, lives and their education in relation to their income).