

## Frequently Used Clinical and Functional Assessment Instruments for Youth with Mental Health Challenges

Name	Age Range	Early childhood version available (Y/N)	Uses	Areas assessed	Additional information
<b>Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII)<sup>1</sup></b>	6-18	Y (ECSII)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level of care decisions</li> <li>• Tracking outcomes</li> <li>• Intensity of treatment</li> <li>• Assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of harm</li> <li>• Functional status</li> <li>• Co-occurrence of conditions</li> <li>• Environmental stress</li> <li>• Environmental support</li> <li>• Resiliency and/or response</li> <li>• Parent involvement</li> <li>• Child involvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can be used cross-disability for youth with mental health, substance use, or developmental disabilities</li> <li>• Aligns with System of Care values</li> </ul>
<b>Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)</b>	5-20	Y (CANS Birth – 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment</li> <li>• Treatment planning</li> <li>• Tracking outcomes</li> <li>• Quality assurance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem presentation</li> <li>• Risk behaviors</li> <li>• Functioning</li> <li>• Child safety</li> <li>• Family/caregiver needs and strengths</li> <li>• Youth strengths</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No purchase cost for instrument</li> <li>• Can be adapted/modified to conform to local service system environment</li> </ul>
<b>Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS)</b>	5-19	Y (PECAFAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level of care decisions</li> <li>• Type and intensity of treatment</li> <li>• Tracking outcomes</li> <li>• Treatment planning</li> <li>• Assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School</li> <li>• Behavior towards others</li> <li>• Moods/emotions</li> <li>• Home</li> <li>• Thinking problems</li> <li>• Self-harm</li> <li>• Substance use</li> <li>• Community</li> <li>• Caregiver material needs</li> <li>• Family/social support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimated completion time 10 minutes</li> <li>• Web-based data entry interface</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Formerly referred to as the Child and Adolescent Level of Care Utilization System (CALOCUS).

### **Why adopt a standardized assessment?**

- Creates a “common language” regarding youth clinical needs and functioning.
- If the data is collected by the state or other entity it can provide important information about the needs, strengths, and functioning of youth who are participating in services across the system that can be used for system planning (e.g. identifying system gaps)
- Provides the opportunity to assess outcomes at the individual, program, and system level

### **Considerations for localities interested in adopting a standardized assessment**

- Training infrastructure and associated costs
- Cost of purchasing copyrighted materials (if applicable)
- IT and staffing costs if data will be “pushed” up to the state or other entity
- Practitioner/provider resistance
- Compliance monitoring