

# UTAH PASRR LEVEL I DISABILITY SCREENING

PASRR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER'S POWER OF PASRR  
WEBINAR SERIES

ADAPTED BY THE STATE MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY  
FOR PASRR

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# Agenda

- ▶ The Big Picture
  - ▶ The Requirements
  - ▶ The Conundrums
  - ▶ Program Structure and Infrastructure
  - ▶ Level I Screening Form
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# PASRR—The Big Picture

- ▶ **CMS is more engaged than ever** in promoting PASRR as a mechanism to improve quality of life for nursing facility residents with disability.
  - ▶ **PTAC exists** to assist states with everything from high level analysis to working together on nuts and bolts parts of PASRR programs.
  - ▶ **A trend is building for measurement** of PASRR quality, outcomes, and effectiveness. “Show us the data.”
  - ▶ **The goal of PASRR** is to ensure all persons with disability are identified, their needs measured, the full array of needed services and supports are detailed in written recommendations, and that recommended services and supports are delivered.
  - ▶ **The goal of PASRR Level I disability screening** is to ensure that the power of PASRR evaluations and recommendations are brought to bear for all persons in NFs who have a PASRR disability condition.
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# A Reminder: Why PASRR is Important

More than ½ of people with disabilities are still residing in institutions

- 560,000 individuals with mental illness in NFs
  - Numbers exceed all other healthcare institutions combined
  - Mental illness is often a key factor in need for NF
- NFs serve the same number of persons with IDD as do large developmental centers
- Relatively few disability specific or disability tailored services in NFs

# Level I –Identifies:

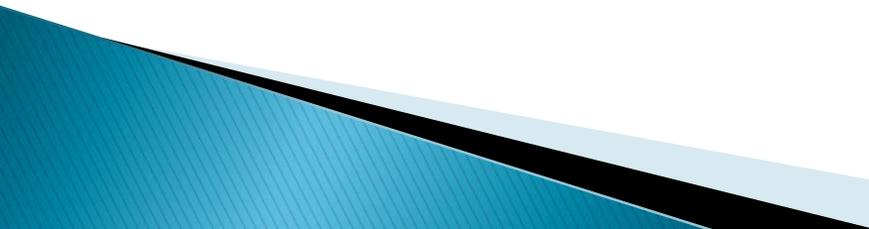
- ▶ Diagnosis or credible suspicion
  - ▶ Intellectual disability
  - ▶ Related conditions
  - ▶ Serious mental illness
  - ▶ Primary Dementia
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# Level I Screening: The Requirements

# Level I Disability Screen: Purpose

- ▶ To identify all persons who must have the Level II Preadmission Screening (PAS) or Resident Review (RR);
  - ▶ That is, to identify all applicants to and residents of Medicaid–certified nursing facilities (NFs) who possibly have serious mental illness, intellectual disability or a related condition.
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# Level I Regulatory Requirements, the State Medicaid Agency:

- ▶ Has the overall responsibility for the quality of all aspects of the State PASRR program (see 431.621 & 431.104)
  - ▶ Must assure that every new admission to a Medicaid certified NF receive a Level I screen before admission.
  - ▶ This includes both persons with and without Medicaid as payer source.
  - ▶ This includes mandating that “the State’s PASRR program must identify all persons who are **suspected** of having MI or [ID] as defined in sec. 483.102.
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# Level I Regulatory Requirements

- ▶ The PASRR MI Contractor and/or the IDD authorities (or designated entity) must be notified whenever an individual is suspected or known of having a mental illness or Intellectual Disability (PASRR condition).
  - ▶ The Nursing Facility must document date of referral, name of person contacted and the agency.
  - ▶ Must have a system for tracking persons with a suspected PASRR condition who are approved through the hospital exemption.
  - ▶ The system must cue when an individual's stay nears the 30th day. The NF shall refer the person for a Level II evaluation before midnight on the 30<sup>th</sup> day.
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# Level I Regulatory Requirements

- ▶ For first time identifications, the individual and legal representative must be provided **written notice** that a PASRR condition is suspected or known and of the referral to the PASRR MH or ID authority for a Level II .
  - ▶ Referrals for Level IIs for residents (status changes):
  - ▶ Must have procedures and training for NF staff regarding ID of persons not identified on admission as having a PASRR condition
  - ▶ Must have written procedures designating responsibility for performing Level I screens, specified instruments, and training for screeners.
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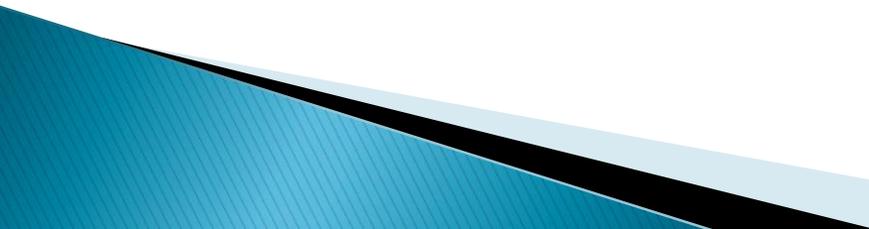
# Federal Register References

- ▶ The Level I screener should not just rely on “known diagnosis” but should “use discretion in reviewing client labels and look beyond diagnostic labels...
  - ▶ We do expect states to take reasonable measures to assure that diagnoses are accurate.
  - ▶ We reiterate that because mental illness/intellectual disability diagnoses may be withheld from individuals or their families.. We do not believe it is appropriate to accept existing diagnostic information without question.
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# Federal Register References

- ▶ It is clear to us that reliance on known diagnosis would cause the process to miss individuals whose mental illness or intellectual disability had not been specifically identified.
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# Level I Disability Screen Tasks:

- ▶ Document that evidence is sufficient to rule out all suspicion of PASRR conditions (more than lack of a diagnosis in the record), by documenting on the Level I that the PASRR contractor or IDD Authority or designated entity was contacted, reviewed the collateral and stated that no Level II evaluation was needed.
  - ▶ Document that the possible presence of a PASRR condition cannot be ruled out (a Level II evaluation is required),
  - ▶ Document when information is sufficient to apply certain predetermined PASRR criteria (hospital exemptions), less than 30 day stay certified in writing by the attending physician.
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# Level I Screen Goals

- ▶ Capture *all* persons with *suspected or known* SMI, ID–  
RC (looking beyond reported diagnoses)
- ▶ Be sensitive (identify everybody it was meant to identify)
- ▶ No matter who the informants are and given the information available at the time of the screening
- ▶ No matter who conducts the screen or where it is done
- ▶ No matter the person's diagnoses, history, current presentation

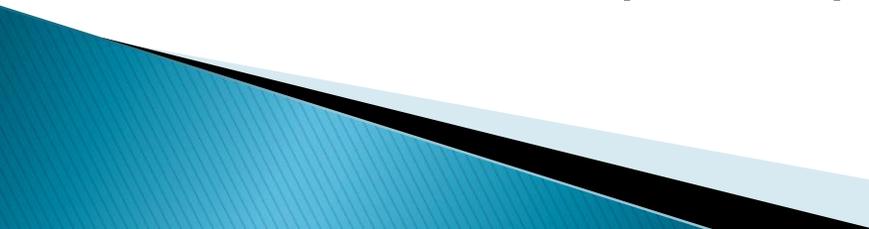
# How Level I Disability Screens vary

- ▶ Who is eligible or required to complete the Level I screen?

According to R414-501-2(6) “Health care professional” means a duly licensed or certified physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, physical therapist, speech therapist, occupational therapist, registered professional nurse, licensed practical nurse, social worker, or qualified ID-RC professional. If a mental illness or developmental disability is identified on the Level I, a Level II must also be completed.

- ▶ When it is filled out
  - ▶ What information is gathered for or within the Level I screen
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# Keys to Successful Level I Forms:

- ▶ ‘Look beyond’ reported diagnoses to consider potential evidence of undiagnosed PASRR conditions;
  - ▶ ‘Look beyond’ reported dementia diagnoses to confirm presence of dementia;
  - ▶ When both dementia and mental illness are present, gather sufficient information to determine which condition is primary according to the *PASRR definition* of ‘primary’.
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# Level I Screening: Structure and Infrastructure

# Structure/Infrastructure Considerations

- ▶ Integration of Level I with Level of Care
  - ▶ Integration of Level I screening information with Level II evaluation information (Level II evaluation & State Determination)
  - ▶ Timeframes
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# Triggering Level II evaluations

- ▶ Refer to the local PASRR office for a Level II evaluation on anyone with a symptom, diagnosis, or behavior that may indicate the presence of a PASRR condition.
  - ▶ Also, refer to the local PASRR office for a Level II evaluation for anyone that scores above a 19 on the PHQ9 and anyone with a mood disorder indicated on the MDS.
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# PASRR: REAL STORIES, REAL PEOPLE

PASRR is thinking about *quality* of  
life for persons with disability