

Using Outcome Measures

Choosing the Right Tool

1. *Identify what you want the Tool to Assess*

For Example:

- Global Symptomatology
- Diagnosis Specific Symptoms
- Functional Abilities
- Other

2. *Select the Tool for Quality and Appropriateness*

- Does it Assess what you Want to Assess?
- Is it valid and reliable– has it been researched?
- Where else has it been used?
- Will it assess change over time?

Tools should be:

- ▶ Clear
- ▶ Specific
- ▶ Brief
- ▶ Easily accessible
- ▶ Based on Research– Psychometrically Sound; and
- ▶ Ask clinically relevant questions
- ▶ Utilize a simple scoring system with clinically useful scores

Implementation

3. *Implement the selected tool for use in context with other information*

- a. Provide Staff Training; and
- b. Orient the client to how the tool will be used

4. *Include in Clinical Discussions and in Supervision*

- a. Review with the client
- b. Consider what the tool says in context with other information the clinician has been given
- c. Use as a starting point for discussions around specific goals and objectives and understanding what improvement in symptomatology might look like, as well as discharge planning
- d. Discuss in supervision

5. *Capture at an aggregate level to better understand Clinical Population; Outcomes; and Needs*

For example, looking at Outcomes in accordance with:

- a. Diagnosis
- b. Length in treatment; and
- c. Across groups with similar scores at Baseline
- d. Other ways...