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Visit the Blending Initiative website for more information and
Blending products: <http://nida.nih.gov/blending>

NIDA NATIONAL INSTITUTE
ON DRUG ABUSE



TREATMENT PLANNING M.A.T.R.S.:

Utilizing the
Addiction Severity Index (ASI)
to Make Required Data
Collection Useful

THE BLENDING INITIATIVE

Accelerating the dissemination of findings that drug abuse and addiction research generates into community-based practice is a key priority for the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). To this end, NIDA relies on an innovative partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA/CSAT) known as the Blending Initiative. This initiative is NIDA's most recent effort to accelerate the dissemination of research-based drug abuse and addiction treatment findings into community-based practice.

Based on recently tested NIDA research, Blending Teams design user-friendly tools, or products, and introduce them to treatment providers. These products facilitate the adoption of research-based interventions in communities at nearly the same time research results are published in peer-reviewed journals.

Blending Teams are comprised of NIDA researchers, clinical treatment providers, and trainers from SAMHSA's Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) Network. These experts work together to develop products based on research conducted within NIDA's Clinical Trials Network as well as within other research programs supported by NIDA. The ATTCs, which are funded by CSAT, provide specialized training and technical assistance to substance abuse treatment professionals to create a more effective treatment workforce.

Sustainability training
IMPLEMENTATION
validity research
FIDELITY Feedback
effectiveness

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Addiction Severity Index (ASI) is one of the most universally used instruments for the assessment of substance abuse and related problems. This Blending product is designed to address how to transform required paperwork into clinically useful information. Addiction counselors administer the ASI, yet often fail to use its findings. To assist clinicians, supervisors, and managers with utilizing the ASI results more readily, this product addresses the key tenets of treatment objectives and interventions—Measurable, Attainable, Time-Limited, Realistic, and Specific—referred to as Treatment Planning M.A.T.R.S.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

- Examine how ASI information can be used for clinical applications and assist in program evaluation activities.
- Identify differences between program-driven and individualized treatment planning processes.
- Gain a familiarization with the process of treatment planning.
- Define basic guidelines and legal considerations in documenting client status.
- Provide opportunities to practice incorporating the ASI information in documentation activities through use of the ASI Narrative Report and case examples.

THE TRAINING PACKAGE

A 6-hour training program and a 4-week online version

- reviews the use of ASI applications in treatment planning;
- differentiates individualized treatment plans versus program-driven plans;
- reviews evaluation data of treatment plan progress and client retention for program directors and clinical supervisors;
- explores the role of treatment plan in clinical records; and
- offers experiential writing exercises.

