

Introduction & Instructions for Completion of Self-Administration Assessment

The purpose of the Self-Administration Assessment is to ensure that the individual is able to SAFELY accomplish medication administration and health-related activities. Every individual with developmental disabilities (DD) has the right to self-administer their medications. The persons planning and providing services are responsible for the safety of the individual with DD.

When should a Self-Administration Assessment be completed?

The self-administration assessment needs to be completed at a minimum of every three years, with a review done annually. A new assessment should be completed in the event of, but not limited to, the following occurrences:

- The individual experiences a significant health change
- The medication packaging changes (bubble pack to bottle; pill to liquid, etc.)
- There is a change in the usual medication routine (new location, new provider)

Consider the individual's safety. If on occasion a person who has historically been able to self-administer is unable to do so safely, a licensed or certified and authorized person, or natural support will need to administer medications for the individual during those times. When able, the individual can resume self-administration as indicated in the ISP. Examples of such occasions include, but are not limited to, when the individual experiences an episode of mental illness, becomes physically ill, or goes to a new environment and cannot transfer skills to the new environment immediately.

Where to complete the assessment

Complete the assessment in each setting where the individual takes his/her medications or receives medication administration. This is to determine if the individual is able to safely take their medications in their own environments. The assessment should not be applied like a test. The individual should be supported to feel comfortable, calm and unhurried by the assessment process.

Who completes the assessment?

It is recommended the Self-Medication Assessment be completed by one person who knows the individual well and is familiar with the individual's subjective mode of communication. When possible, it is recommended a second observer be present to ensure results are indicative of the individual's capacity to safely self-administer or not.

Important Considerations:

- ◆ Individuals have an inherent right to self-administer medications (Ohio Administrative Code 5123:2-6-02). The form is to confirm the need for others to administer medications on their behalf.
- ◆ Individuals with DD have the right to do as many steps of medication administration as they can do either independently or with support, even if they are not assessed to be able to self-administer with or without assistance. Support persons must be legally qualified for the support they provide.
- ◆ If there are reasons the team believes a person with the assessed knowledge and skill to self-administer is otherwise unsafe to do so the Team must follow the appropriate processes associated with Rights restrictions.
- ◆ Multiple Self-Administration Assessments may be used for an individual. For example, separate Self-Administration forms should be used to record variable abilities if an individual is not able to self-administer due to multiple medications at 8 a.m., but can self-administer one medication at 12 p.m., or can use their glucometer. If two people do not agree with the assessment based on safety concerns, a third Team member should be consulted.

Using the form:

Answer every question on page one of the form. Questions are answered with a "Yes" or "No". On page 2 indicate one of the 3 possible outcomes (check other special considerations as applicable):

1. Able to Self-Administer
2. Able to Self-Administer with Assistance
3. Not Able to Self-Administer

The plan coordinator shall ensure that self-medication assessment information appears on the ISP.