

## Overview of MIRECC GAF Scoring

### Scoring

- Scores are based on 30 days prior to date of admission, follow up, or discharge
- All known information is used for scoring.
- There are three domains: Symptom, Occupational and Social Functioning.
- When possible, be sure to determine scores for all three domains through direct interaction with the participant. You may have to ask follow up questions to confirm the participant's decile and where they fall within a decile.

### Symptom Scoring:

- Rate the WORST symptoms over the last month.
- If person had any positive psychotic symptoms, his/her score automatically falls below a 40.
- If person's behavior was affected by psychotic symptoms, his/her score automatically falls below a 30.
- Many hospitalized individuals will fall below 20 due to danger to self or others.

### Occupational Category

- There are 3 occupational categories: Workers, Students and Homemakers.
- Choosing an Occupational Category
  - If a person is functioning in more than one role, such as a working and attending school, select the primary activity.
  - If person is not working or in school, do not automatically put that person in the homemaker category. Instead, use the category you think best fits what the person would be doing if he/she were not ill.
  - Once participant takes an active step to work (apply for a job), they could be categorized as worker.
  - Consider future plans when determining whether individuals are workers or students. Some individuals may plan to go to college and others may not.
  - You can ask the participant how they would categorize themselves and use this information to inform your category selection.
  - If you are unable to determine the category, use the following rule of thumb
    - If participant is age 15-18, participant is student.
    - If participant is older than 18 and he/she is not in school or working now, consider what he/she was doing last (work or school), and what he/she aims to be doing next (work or school) when assigning categories.
    - If you are still unable to determine student vs. worker status, the rule of thumb is under 21 is a student, and 21 and older is a worker.

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- Consult with the Supported Employment and Education Specialist when making this rating
  - Rate the AVERAGE of person's occupational functioning over the last month
  - Consider outside activities to move person up or down within a decile. These outside activities include housework, childcare, extracurricular activities, money management (including management of benefits checks), etc.
    - Are they seeking a job?
    - Do they have specific housework responsibilities or if they only do things as requested? Is their housework limited to picking up after themselves?
  - If a person's occupational status changed during the month (e.g., b/c he/she was hospitalized part of the month or gained or lost a job during the month), you need to figure out how they would have rated at each occupational status, then average across those ratings while taking into consideration how much time they spent in each occupational status.
  
- Lower Deciles
  - Individuals "not able to obtain" food, shelter, clothing and basic hygiene are in the dangerous category. "Not able to obtain" means unable to obtain in any way, even via the 3rd party. Examples are below:
  - Food
    - An adult living with parents who provide food is able to obtain food
    - An inpatient individual where food is provided is able to obtain food.
    - An individual living on the streets who is unable to obtain food when they are hungry is not able to obtain food.
  - Shelter
    - An adult living with their parents is able to obtain shelter.
    - Someone living in a homeless shelter is able to obtain shelter.
    - Someone who is sleeping on the streets is not able to obtain shelter.
  - Clothing
    - An adult who has adequate clothing (several outfits) purchased by their parents is able to obtain clothing.
    - An adult who has adequate clothing (several outfits) obtained from Salvation Army is able to obtain clothing
    - Someone who has only 1-2 outfits that are soiled, or if outfits are not weather appropriate is not able to obtain clothing.
  - Hygiene
    - For basic hygiene, either you have it or you don't. If your hygiene is good you are able to obtain. If your hygiene is not good, you are not able to obtain it.
  
- Worker subscale
  - If person is in the worker subscale and is looking for a job, ask him/her what exactly he/she has been doing to look for a job.
  - Competitive Employment = job paying at least minimum wage available to anyone in the community (not just those with disabilities).

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- Jobs obtained in the community with the assistance of the SEES can be considered to be competitive employment.
- Work at family owned businesses can be considered competitive even though they may not be available to others in the community.
- Competitive unpaid internships can be considered competitive employment
- Off the books work can be considered competitive employment if it pays at least a minimum wage
- Non Competitive / Sheltered Employment
  - This is supported or sheltered employment that may or may not be paid.
  - This also includes jobs that are only available to individuals who are disabled.
  - Volunteer work can count as non-competitive employment.
  - Work performed with extensive assistance by family members would be considered sheltered employment
- Homemaker Subscale
  - Consider the quality of work if this was their sole occupational activity
  - Ask how clean and tidy his/her home is.
  - A person can be in borderline range or below here if it seems likely that he/she could use regular assistance in keeping up home. He/she doesn't actually have to be RECEIVING that assistance.

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### Social Scale

- Raters may need to draw from multiple sources of information to rate this item.
  - Rate the AVERAGE of person's social functioning over the last month.
  - Get a sense of how much time person spends around other people.
    - When person is around other people, how well does he/she relate to them? Is he/she comfortable, able to share personal things, able to give back to anyone with whom he/she has a comfortable relationship?
    - When he/she is not around other people, is that because he/she is avoiding them? Always gets into conflict with them? Is uncomfortable around them?
  - When determining whether or not a relationship is "meaningful" you can ask the participant how important the relationship is to them. If they feel close to the person, it counts.
  - A person's social situation can change dramatically during the month (e.g., b/c he/she was hospitalized part of the month. In those cases, you need to figure out how they would have rated in each social situation, then average across those ratings while taking into consideration how much time they spent in each social situation. For example, if a person was hospitalized for one week then was living at home for the rest of the month, figure out where that person would score during the one week they were hospitalized, then figure out where he/she would have scored during the remaining three weeks at home. To come up with the final score, give the person one-fourth credit for the time he/she as in the hospital, and three-fourths credit for the time he/she was at home.
  - Consider how participant's symptoms are affecting his/her ability to participate meaningfully in relationships.
  - Note the difference between conflict and disagreement. It is within the normal and expected range for people to have disagreements, and to either resolve them, or to agree to disagree without conflict. Conflict is manifest in storming away from the discussion; throwing things, threatening [assault]; pushing, hitting [battery]; destroying property. Disagreement bordering on conflict is rated on the border of normal and not normal.