



Understanding and Assessing Young Children

0-4 CANS



Background



- CANS in TN
 - COEs as partner
 - DCS sought measure that was...
 - Family focused
 - Strengths based
 - Culturally sensitive
 - Not stigmatizing
 - Useful in service planning
 - Administered at entry, every 6 months, transitions, and discharge



Background



- Precedent for 0–4 module
 - Significant portion of DCS population
 - Limitations of other assessments (EPSD&T)
 - Growing awareness of infant mental health in TN

- Development of the 0–4 module
 - Full 0–4 CANS by developer (Dr. John Lyons)
 - Used in several other states
 - TN module a subset of items from full
 - Content reviewed by DCS senior leadership
 - Implementation of module in relation to comprehensive CANS under consideration

0–4 CANS Module



Functioning	Needs	Risk Factors & Behaviors	Strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Functioning • Preschool/Daycare • Play • Developmental/Intellectual • Motor • Sensory • Communication • Sleep • Medical/Physical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attachment • Regulatory • Failure to Thrive • Depression • Anxiety • Atypical/Repetitive Behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth Weight • Feeding/Elimination • Prenatal Care • Labor and Delivery • Substance Exposure • Parent or Sibling Problems • Parental Availability • Self-Harm • Aggressive Behaviors • Flight Risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Strengths • Interpersonal • Persistence/Curiosity/Adaptability

0-4 CANS Module



Competent Scoring

- "Supplemental information"
 - In-depth explanations
 - Examples
- "Questions to consider"
 - Does the child struggle with separating from caregiver?
 - Has she/he withdrawn from normal activities?
 - Is the child easily engaged in play?
- Infant-specific scenarios during CANS training



Dissemination



- Regional CANS consultants through Vanderbilt COE
- DCS field staff trained annually by COE consultants
- Staff scored for reliability
- Subject-matter experts available to CANS consultants
- Timeline for 0-4 module roll-out TBD

