

**Department of Mental Health
Adult Community Clinical Service**

Frequently Asked Questions

**Comprehensive Assessment
Role of the Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts**

Question: What is the role of the Licensed Practitioner of the Healing Arts in regards to the completion of the Comprehensive Assessment?

Answer: The licensed clinical staff members oversee the collection of information needed for the Comprehensive Assessment, meet face to face with the person and are responsible for developing the Clinical Formulation-Interpretive Summary that summarize and analyze the information collected to date, identifies risk and prioritizes needs to be addressed by ACCS.

In Massachusetts, the following practitioners are designated as LPHAs:

- Physicians licensed pursuant to the requirements of M.G.L. c.112 §§ 2, 9, and 9B, which authorizes the person to engage in the practice of medicine (243 CMR 2.00).
- Registered Nurses licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c.112 (244 CMR 3.00).
- Psychologists licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c.112 (251 CMR 1.00-4.00).
- Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Certified Social Workers
- Registered Occupational Therapists licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c.112 (259 CMR 3.00).
- Licensed Rehabilitation Counselors licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c.112 (262 CMR 4.00).
- Licensed Mental Health Counselors licensed pursuant to M.G.L. c.112 (262 CMR 2.00).
- Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor LADC I pursuant to M.G.L. c 112 (105 CMR 168.00)
- Other persons who become licensed in a mental health related discipline or profession in accordance with state law and regulations and subject to the approval of the Commissioner of DMH.

Oversight of the Comprehensive Assessment and any updates/revisions by LPHAs requires the following:

1. The LPHA must meet with the person served during the completion of the CA.
2. The LPHA may oversee the collection of information needed for the assessment from other staff who are not LPHA's in completing the Comprehensive Assessment. These staff may gather information for all parts of the assessment **except::**
 - Trauma History Addendum
 - Risk Assessment
 - Sexual History, if pertinent

- Mental Status Exam (MSE): Either the LPHA overseeing the Comprehensive Assessment or another LPHA who knows the person served must complete the MSE. If another LPHA completes the MSE, the exam must be attached to the assessment (paper records) and signed by that LPHA and the exam must have been conducted within the past year and prior to the completion of the Community Service Plan.
- Clinical Formulation – Interpretive Summary: LPHAs must complete a rehabilitation-focused formulation designed to improve the person’s functional limitations. *When completing the Clinical Formulation – Interpretive Summary the LPHA establishes medical necessity for rehabilitative services for the coming year.* Diagnosis: Diagnosis is most often provided to ACCS providers for the person served by their licensed treating clinician; typically the psychiatrist, clinical psychologist, LISCW, Clinical Nurse Specialist or LMHC. If there are different diagnoses documented, the diagnosis determined by the highest credentialed qualified licensed professional should be used.
- Prioritized Assessed Needs and Level of Care/Indicated Services Recommendations sections: LPHAs must determine the needs to be addressed as well as the service recommendations for the person receiving ACCS.

3. ACCS staff that assist in collecting information for the Comprehensive Assessment and the LPHA responsible for the oversight and the developing of the Clinical Formulation Interpretive Summary must sign and date the Comprehensive Assessment. LPHA’ are required to include their credentials with signature.