Clinical Guidelines and Service Definitions

IQ Battery

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Revised 11/13

Funding Stream
Medicaid, Private Insurance, or other Community Resources must first be accessed and denied before a request can be made for use of Core Service dollars.

Definition of Service

- **Service goals are centered on promoting child and family safety and parental protective capacity.**
  
- Intellectual testing is conducted by a psychologist to attempt to answer questions about an individual client’s cognitive and intellectual abilities, and how these abilities might impact a given client’s management of daily activities and effective utilization of other services.
  
- Intellectual testing seeks to address these questions through the use of interview, assessment instrument(s), and collateral information as appropriate. The primary instrument used for this service should be a comprehensive, rigorously standardized, individually administered test, such as the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS-III). A shortened form of such an instrument – the Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence (WASI), for example – would be inappropriate as the sole or primary test administered.
  
- The collection and review of collateral information must be obtained prior to completing the report and documentation of the collateral information must be included in the final written report. If unable to obtain collateral data within one week of the referral, the provider must outreach to caseworker/supervisor/Health Network care coordinator to facilitate collection of collateral information. Reports written without obtaining collateral information will not be reimbursed without prior approval from AspenPointe Health Network.

Guidelines for when to request this service

- Another assessment (Mental Health, Substance Abuse, etc.) has indicated that cognitive impairments may interfere with a client’s ability to participate in services effectively
  
- A client’s historical behavior/performance suggests that intellectual functioning deficits (as opposed to substance use or mental health concerns) account for observed limitations
  
- The vast majority of cases referred for this service will not be exclusively focused on vocational or educational placement issues. Other resources typically exist to address these concerns more effectively and systematically.

The associated report should contain a minimum of the following information: Identifying Information, Referral Source, Reason for Referral, Procedure(s) used including assessment instrument(s), Collateral Information, Relevant Background Information, Behavioral Observations and Mental Status Exam, Test Results and Conclusions.
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**Estimated Length of Treatment:**
In most circumstances, intellectual testing can be completed within the parameters of a single two-hour visit. However, the process may require additional time depending on the complexity of the case and the cooperativeness of the client. Additional time is required by the provider (one – two hours) to score, interpret, and dictate the results of the test. The report is expected to be completed and submitted within 10 working days of the service being completed.

**Frequency of Services:**
One time per year

**Provider Credentials:**
Licensed Psychologist. Provider may also be a doctoral candidate in psychology who has completed a predoctoral internship and is currently under the supervision of a Licensed Psychologist (who will cosign each report). Alternately, a provider may be a Psychologist Candidate who has earned the doctoral degree but is not yet licensed in the field; as above, another licensed psychologist will review and co-sign each report.

**Provider Responsibilities:**
Copies of the final report should be provided to the referring caseworker as well as the Care Coordinator within 10 business days of the completed evaluation.

**Caseworker Responsibilities:**
Caseworker is responsible for providing specific referral question(s) to the Care Coordinator on the referral form; this will enable the provider to most effectively address the relevant issues.

**Staffing:**
Generally, a staffing should not be required for this service. However, a staffing may be coordinated by the caseworker when such a forum is likely to enhance the utility of the test results and related recommendations in a particular case. If so coordinated, a separate authorization for the provider to participate in the staffing will be approved and generated.