

Pre-IDA: Preparing for interview

APS Worker Name

Date

Client Name

Primary Language Spoken

A. Possible Risks: Check all that the client seems to be facing at this time

Abuse	Self-Neglect	Financial Exploitation
☐ Physical Injury	☐ Medical (medical care, leaving AMA, not taking medications, etc.)	☐ Misappropriation of property
☐ Mental Injury	☐ Refusal of community supports	☐ Intentionally taking unfair advantage of physical or financial resources when the known adult lacks capacity to consent
☐ Sexual Abuse	☐ Failure to thrive	☐ Person in position of trust takes money or property not in due and lawful execution of trust or benefit
☐ Unreasonable use of a physical restraint, isolation or medication	☐ Inadequate food	☐ Breach of fiduciary duty, the misuse of power of attorney, trust or guardian/conservatorship as it relates to property, income, resources or trust funds
☐ A threat or menacing conduct	☐ Suicidal	☐ Use of deception, intimidation, coercion, extortion, or undue influence by a person or entity to obtain or use adult's property, income, resources, or trust funds for profit of such person
	☐ Eviction	
Neglect	☐ Unsafe housing (filth, vermin, squalid living conditions, inadequate utilities)	
☐ By caretaker		
☐ By another person		

B. Identified Risk: Circle the risk above that you believe poses the highest level of endangerment

What wording will you use to describe this risk to the client?

C. Introduction: Consider how you will introduce IDA to the client

For example: *"So let's talk now about some of the decisions that you might be making".*
Or possibly *"Now I'm going to be asking you some important questions having to do with decisions that you might be making. Will that be OK?"*

D. Interview Instructions: Use the risk identified in the Pre-IDA for IDA Steps 1, 2, & 3

IDA Step 2 - Insight into the Risk on a Personal Level (Appreciation)

A. APS Worker asks the client if he/she is experiencing this risk.

One way to ask: *"I'd like to learn more about **you**. Even though we may have already touched on this in our conversation, do you think **you** are facing [insert risk]?"*

Possible probes: *"Can you tell me why?" or "I'd like to know more about your thoughts on this."*

Worker Judgment

Do you think the client has insight that he/she could personally be experiencing this risk? (check one)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Maybe
- ☐ No (If No in IDA Step 3, skip question A and complete only B and C)

What did the client say that brought you to this judgment? Record the client's own words as closely as possible:

Describe the client's emotions, reactions, non-verbal gestures:

IDA Step 3 - Ability to Weigh Advantages/Disadvantages of a Plan for Addressing Risk (Reasoning)

A. APS worker asks if the client has a plan to address the risk.

"What are your plans to address the possibility of [insert risk]?"

"How would that help address the possibility of [insert risk]?"

B. If the client lacks insight (IDA Step 2) or a workable plan (IDA Step 3A), APS worker suggests an alternative plan to address the risk. "Would you consider (insert plan) to address the possibility of [insert risk]? Tell me your thoughts."

C. APS worker asks the client about advantages and disadvantages of a workable plan (from IDA Step 3A or 3B) to address the risk.

"What would be the **advantages** for you having (insert plan) to address the possibility of [insert risk]?"

What would be the **disadvantages** for you having [insert plan] to address the possibility of [insert risk]?"

Worker Judgment

Does the client have the ability to weigh the advantages/disadvantages of a plan to address the risk? (check one)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Maybe
- ☐ No

What did the client say that brought you to this judgment? Record the client's own words as closely as possible:

Describe the client's emotions, reactions, non-verbal gestures:

Post-IDA - Next Steps

Risk used for IDA

Estimated time spent conducting this interview

Summary of Worker Judgments

Step 1 - Assessing the Risk in General (Understanding)

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe

☐ No

Step 2 - Insight into the Risk on a Personal Level (Appreciation)

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe

☐ No

Step 3 - Ability to Weigh Advantages/Disadvantages of a Plan for Addressing Risk (Reasoning)

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe

☐ No

Were there any barriers to completing the IDA (hearing or speech problems, language comprehension, other)?

☐ Yes

☐ Maybe

☐ No

Describe the barriers:

Next Steps (check all that apply)

☐ Use the IDA to help clarify the client’s thinking about the risk

☐ Discuss client’s decisional ability with supervisor

☐ Incorporate IDA into your overall APS Assessment

☐ Consider referral for professional capacity assessment

☐ Other (describe on the lines immediately below)

Additional Notes

5 of 5

The Cornell-Penn Interview for Decisional Abilities (IDA 3.0-KS). Cornell University and The University of Pennsylvania © 2024. Please do not reprint outside Kansas without permission of Weill Cornell Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine and Jason Karlawish, MD, The University of Pennsylvania. The Cornell-Penn Interview for Decisional Abilities is a tool to guide APS professionals in assessing a client’s decisional abilities. The IDA is not legally binding, but the notes within it may provide support in cases referred for formal capacity evaluation.