

Health Screening Tool

An overview of the health screening tool
for the Healthy Pennsylvania initiative

➤ What is the health screening tool?

- The tool will capture baseline information on a person's health care needs to allow the department to appropriately match it to a benefit plan.
- The tool asks basic information about a person's health conditions, similar to what you may provide when first visiting a doctor's office.
- The tool is not a diagnostic tool.
- The tool was created in response to a CMS requirement for the department to determine medically frailty.

➤ Definition of Medically Frail

- The approved waiver has a definition of Medically Frail
- Medical Frail includes individuals who have a:
 - Disabling mental disorder
 - Chronic substance abuse disorder
 - Serious and complex medical condition
 - Physical disability that significantly impairs his or her functioning
 - Intellectual or developmental disability
 - Disability determination designation by the Social Security Administration

➤ Important Facts About the Health Screening Tool

- The health screening tool is intended to be completed by the individual and does not require a health care professional to administer.
- The tool is not a requirement for eligibility.
- A person may skip a question on the screening tool if the individual chooses to not respond to a question.
- All information received from the tool will be confidential.

➤ Development of Health Screening Tool

- The Health Screening Tool was developed using the following framework:
 - Researched other state's tools and best practices for gathering information on a person's health status.
 - Developed by a workgroup of physical health and behavioral health clinicians.
 - Provided a draft of the tool to the researchers at the University of Michigan for feedback and suggested changes
 - Tested in the field with current Medical Assistance clients. The field test allowed the department to refine the questions and assure we were asking the right questions.
- The department will be monitoring and obtaining feedback as the tool is implemented. The department anticipates making revisions to the tool during 2015 as needed.

Who will be required to complete the screening tool?

- Adults between the ages of 21 through 64 applying for Medicaid or the Private Option Coverage
- The following individuals will **not** complete the screening tool:
 - Children up to the age of 21,
 - Adults 65 years of age and older,
 - Pregnant woman,
 - Individuals on SSI (or in a SSI related eligibility category),
 - Those applying for or receiving MA home and community base (waiver) services, and
 - Individuals residing in institutional settings (nursing homes, ICFs)

➤ When will an individual complete the health screening?

- At **initial application** for Medicaid or Private Coverage Option
 - The screening tool will be part of the paper application, the online COMPASS application and part of the phone application process.
- At **annual renewal**, those adults, whose claim data shows them to be low risk or not medically frail, will be allowed to complete the health screening either online or by phone.