

Assessing the Utility and Feasibility of Existing Transition Tools

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Main Challenges:

Transitioning from Pediatric to Adult Health Care

- There is little consistent planning for transition on the pediatric side
- There are few adult-focused providers willing and prepared to accept these youth as patients
- There is little communication between pediatricians and adult-focused providers

Types of Transition Tools Designed to Address Challenges

- **ASD Information** – information, strategies, and resources for providers and families
- **Facilitate Communication** – between stakeholder groups
- **Build Youth Self-Management Skills** – prepare youth and families for the adult health care environment

Transition Tools Reviewed

- **ASD Information** – information, strategies, and resources for providers and families
 1. Autism Information, Diagnosis, and Referrals (autismandhealth.org)
 2. Caring for Patients on the Autism Spectrum: How can Autism Affect Health Care? (autismandhealth.org)
 3. Integrating Young Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities into Your Practice: Tips for Adult Health Care Providers (gottransition.org)

Transition Tools Reviewed

- **ASD Information** – information, strategies, and resources for providers and families
4. Resources and Links (autismandhealth.org)
 5. Accessing Home and Community-Based Services: A Guide for Self-Advocates (autismadvocacy.org)
 6. Coding and Reimbursement Tip Sheet for Transition (gottransition.org)

Transition Tools Reviewed

- **Facilitate Communication** – between stakeholder groups
 1. Sample Plan of Care (gottransition.org)
 2. Medical Summary and Emergency Care Plan (gottransition.org)
 3. Autism Healthcare Accommodations Tool (AHAT) (autismandhealth.org)

Transition Tools Reviewed

- **Build Youth Self-Management Skills** – prepare youth and families for the adult health care environment
 1. Are You Ready to Transition? (Boston Childrens' Hospital)
 2. Making an appointment, what to bring, symptoms checklist, after the visit (autismandhealth.org)

Transition Tools Reviewed

- **Build Youth Self-Management Skills** – prepare youth and families for the adult health care environment
3. Transition Readiness Assessment for Youth (gottransition.org)
 4. Transition Readiness Assessment Questionnaire (TRAQ)
 5. Transition Readiness Assessment for Parents/Caregivers (gottransition.org)

Research Design

- **Four Pediatric Advisors from Community Health Centers**
 - Online survey: rate usefulness, feasibility
 - Telephone Interview: rank order; tool revisions
 - Conference Call: Define intervention
- **Adult-Focused Providers of Transition-age patients with ASD** (*data still being gathered*)
 - Online Survey: rate usefulness, feasibility

Research Questions: Pediatric Advisors

- How useful is each tool in facilitating transition?
- Would you use each tool in your practice?
- Which tools would you rank as most needed?

Top Tools - Consensus

- Two tools selected as “top 5” by 3 out of 4 advisors

Medical Summary and Emergency Care Plan
(gottransition.org) (*Communication*)

Are You Ready to Transition? (Boston Childrens’
Hospital) (*Youth Self Management*)

Top Tools - Consensus

- Five tools selected as “top 5” by 2 out of 4 advisors – *ASD Information*

Caring for Patients on the Autism Spectrum:
How can Autism Affect Health Care?
(autismandhealth.org)

Integrating Young Adults with Intellectual and
Developmental Disabilities into Your Practice:
Tips for Adult Health Care Providers
(gottransition.org)

Top Tools - Consensus

- Five tools selected as “top 5” by 2 out of 4 advisors – *Youth Self-Management*

Making an appointment, what to bring, symptoms checklist, after the visit
(autismandhealth.org)

Transition Readiness Assessment Questionnaire
(TRAQ)

Transition Readiness Assessment for Parents/
Caregivers (gottransition.org))

Top Tools – Consensus - Summary

- Top tools represented all three types of transition tools

ASD Information – 2

Communication – 1

Youth Self Management - 4

Variation in Tool Rankings

- No one tool was selected as “top 5” by all advisors
- There was significant feedback on all tools in terms of problems and suggestions for improvement
- Even among the top tools, different ways of using the tools were discussed and implementation barriers identified

Key Themes from Tool Assessment

- Much reformatting was seen as needed
 - Shorter and more accessible
 - Adding content
 - Improving the presentation style
- Much discussion centered on the importance of integrating these tools into the EMR while acknowledging the challenges in doing so

Key Themes from Tool Assessment

- Discussion about how best to disseminate and share the tools across all involved in the youth's care
 - Challenges noted about sharing information in “real time”
- Identifying the audience for each tool; some tools useful for some stakeholder groups and not others

Transition Process - Principles

- Importance of establishing a balance between standardizing the process and making it individualized for the patient/family
- Need a transition leader/team in each clinic to motivate providers and staff and to customize the general process to each clinic
- The process should be implemented for all children/youth ages 14 to 22 - **inclusive**; clinicians will buy in more and the process can become part of the work flow if all children are included.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS