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# COMPREHENSIVE BRAIN INJURY ASSESSMENT

CBIA

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## Directive 1.46

Authorizing Code: [26B-6-403](#)

Rule: R539-1-6

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Next Review:

Forms: CBIA, Score Cards, and Handouts

## Purpose

A Comprehensive Brain Injury Assessment (CBIA) shall be completed by a certified acquired brain injury support coordinator (ABISC):

- to determine eligibility for brain injury waiver and non-waiver services;
- to establish level of care for waiver services; and
- for person-centered planning.

CBIA findings identify the person's functional limitations and abilities. Findings inform decisions about the type, intensity, and duration of services that meet the person's support needs and goals. The CBIA shall be completed during intake for each person applying for brain injury services. For a person in service, the CBIA shall be updated annually; and when needed for a second opinion, after an institutional stay, and after a significant change in health status.

A CBIA score between 36 and 136 is eligible for brain injury services.

- For more information about ABIW intake procedure, *see* Directive 1.3 Intake and Eligibility Determination Process (ABI).

## Procedures

The CBIA is a face-to-face assessment designed to be completed in-person. The assessment relies on the completion of tasks, standardized interactions between assessor and person, and observation of the person in a physical environment to achieve accurate results.

## Assessment Tasks

- Tasks require use of paper handouts and score cards provided in the CBIA materials available at <https://dspd.utah.gov/providers/forms/>. Section A of the CBIA includes descriptions of accepted alternatives in the Notes. Alternatives may be used when a person:
  - presents with a speech, physical, or visual impairment;
  - shows signs of distress; or
  - shows signs of fatigue.

## Standardized Assessment

- Follow the CBIA Instructions to the reviewer to ensure that a standardized and trauma-informed assessment is administered.
- Follow the seating arrangement protocol to avoid unintentional and intentional nonverbal cues from caregivers and family members.
- Adjust the assessment environment to avoid objects that may influence the results of a task. For example: remove an analog clock during the draw a clock from memory task.
- Rephrase questions and provide additional explanation to the person when needed.

## Observation

- Use clues from the person's living environment and from caregivers/direct support staff to confirm or question the accuracy of an answer. Additional probing questions can be used during the assessment to identify the accuracy of an answer.

## SECOND OPINIONS, INSTITUTIONS, AND SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN HEALTH STATUS

A new CBIA is needed under certain circumstances.

- A second opinion is needed when:
  - the person scores outside of the required eligibility range;
  - the Eligibility Review Committee (ERC) determines that a second opinion is necessary;
  - there is a question about the validity of the person's CBIA score; or
  - a Request for Services (RFS) includes a new service or a service increase that is not supported by the most recent CBIA.

- A significant change in health status occurs.
- Establishing level of care after an admission to a skilled nursing facility or any other institution.

The Acquired Brain Injury Waiver (ABIW) manager completes CBIA requests for a second opinion, significant change, and level of care after admission to an institution. Contact the ABIW manager to request a new CBIA.

## **REMOTE ASSESSMENT**

Routine annual assessments may be completed remotely through any HIPAA compliant product or platform (e.g. Telehealth). Before conducting an assessment remotely, consider whether the person has any other diagnoses or disabilities that may need additional support during the assessment. The availability of adequate support can impact the validity of the score. Remote assessment may need additional pre-planning with caregivers and family members.

If there is a question about the validity of the CBIA score, contact the ABIW manager for a case staffing and to request a second opinion.

## **CBIA Reviews**

The ABIW manager reviews all administered CBIA's. Assessment reviews are used for process improvements and ABISC training.

## **Acquired Brain Injury Support Coordinator**

Directive 1.19 outlines the training requirements for a Qualified Brain Injury Professional (QBIP). Contact the ABIW manager to complete the ABISC certification process.