




STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

To: Licensed Residential Habilitation Provider Executive Directors
Coordinators of Community Services
Financial Management Services
Support Brokers
DD RN CM/DNs

From: Adrienne Hollimon, Director of Nursing 

Re: Clinical Review for Healthcare Level 3 or Greater

CC: Regional Directors
Patricia Sastoque, Director of Programs

Date: March 22, 2017

The Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST) requires a Clinical Review for all individuals receiving a Health Care Level of 3 or greater. These individuals are considered high risk and requires increased monitoring and supervision. Studies have found that mortality rates increase with the higher HRST scores (4-6). **As of today, only 20% of those needing a Clinical Review have been completed.** To ensure the health and safety of individuals funded by the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), it is imperative that these reviews be completed in a timely manner.

If the individual is in Residential Habilitation, Day Habilitation, Personal Supports or in Self-Directed Services **with** a DDA Registered Nurse Case Manager/Delegating Nurse (RN CM/DN):

- The Coordination of Community Services (CCS) provider at the completion of the HRST Rating must notify the RN CM/DN that the individual requires a Clinical Review.
- The RN CM/DN will complete the Clinical Review. All agencies should have an RN CM/DN who has been trained as Rater and Clinical Reviewer.
- If not, the agency Gatekeeper should submit their names for HRST Rater training and contact their Regional Nurse to identify the date of the next Clinical Reviewer training.
- Any concerns/discrepancies in the Rating will be referred back to the CCS by the RN Clinical Reviewer for re-evaluation/correction. If the HRST is a Level 3 or higher, the Clinical Review process will begin again until there is agreement between the Rater and the Clinical Reviewer.

The DDA has contracted with Optimal Health Care, Inc. to complete the Clinical Review for individuals receiving a Healthcare Level of 3 or greater who **do not have** a RN CM/DN. Please follow these guidelines for completion:

- The CCS at the completion of the HRST Rating must notify Optimal Health by email at hrstreferral@ohc-inc.com and provide the individual's name and date of birth. A copy of the request should also be emailed to hrst.dda@maryland.gov. Optimal Health may be reached at 1-301-790-4962 or 1-855-798-1898, extension 314.
- The Clinical Reviewer will access the online HRST for completion and contact the individual either by phone or in person if further information is needed.
- Any concerns/discrepancies in the Rating will be referred back to the CCS for re-evaluation/correction. If the HRST is Level 3 or higher, the Clinical Review process will begin again until there is agreement between the Rater and the Clinical Reviewer.

If your agency does not have a RN CM/DN that is certified as a Clinical Reviewer there is Advanced HRST Rater and Reviewer training scheduled on the following dates, March 27th and 28th at The Owen Brown Interfaith Center in Columbia and March 30th and 31st at Bowie Comfort Inn & Conference Center. Interested persons may register at one of the following links:

[March 27th & 26th in Columbia](#)

[March 30th & 31st in Bowie](#)

If you need additional information, please contact your Regional Nurse:

Central Region	Mardi Adams	mardi.adams@maryland.gov
Southern Region	Debra Goldberg	debra.goldberg@maryland.gov
Eastern Shore	Karen Borland	karen.borland@maryland.gov
Western Region	Wendy Shaffer-Yingling	wendy.shaffer-yingling@marylan