

## Caregiver Needs (Optional Section)

Although most adults will not have a ‘caregiver’, young adults who live in their parents’ homes and other adults may have family or friends in this role. This section could also be used to rate the strengths and needs of co-participants in treatment and support for an individual. Only unpaid caregivers are rated in this section. In situations where there are multiple co-participants, we recommend making the ratings based on the needs of the set of caregivers as they affect the individual. This module is optional in the ANSA-T.

**For Caregiver Needs the following definitions and action levels are used:**

- 0 = There is no evidence of any needs. This could be a potential resource for the individual.
- 1 = An identified need requires monitoring, watchful waiting, or preventive activities. The caregiver may require help or resources in this area.
- 2 = Action or intervention is required to ensure that the identified need or risk behavior is address as it is currently interfering with the caregiver’s ability to parent or support the individual.
- 3 = An identified need that requires immediate or intensive action as it is currently preventing the caregiver from effectively parenting or supporting the individual.

**Questions to Consider for this Domain:** *What are the strengths and needs of the Individual’s caregiver(s)? Please rate for the past 30 days.*

**Section is Not Applicable.** Individual acts as own caregiver and does not reside with a family or person(s) in caregiving role.

**INVOLVEMENT WITH CARE** - This item is used to rate the caregiver’s participation in the Individual’s care and ability to advocate for the Individual.

**Questions to Consider**

- How involved are the caregivers in services for the Individual?
- Is the caregiver an advocate?
- Would the caregivers like any help in becoming more involved?

**Ratings & Definitions**

- 0** No evidence of problems with caregiver involvement in services or interventions and/or caregiver is able to act as an effective advocate for individual.
- 1** There is a history or suspicion of need for assistance in seeking help, and/or caregiver has history of seeking help for his/her young adult. Caregiver is open to receiving support, education, and information.
- 2** Caregiver does not actively involve him/herself in services and/or interventions intended to assist.
- 3** Caregiver wishes for individual to be removed from his/her care.

**KNOWLEDGE** - This item identifies the caregiver’s knowledge of the Individual’s strengths and needs.

**Questions to Consider**

- How does the caregiver understand the Individual’s needs?
- Does the caregiver have the necessary information to meet the Individual’s needs?

**Ratings & Definitions**

- 0** Caregiver is knowledgeable about the individual’s needs and strengths.
- 1** Caregiver is generally knowledgeable about the individual but may require additional information to improve his/her capacity to parent.
- 2** Caregiver has clear need for information to improve how knowledgeable s/he is about the needs of individual. . Current lack of information is interfering with his/her ability to parent.
- 3** Caregiver has knowledge problems that place the individual at risk of significant negative outcomes.

**ORGANIZATION** - This item is used to rate the caregiver’s ability to manage his/her household within the context of community services.

**Questions to Consider**

- Does the caregiver need or want help with managing his/her home?
- Does the caregiver have difficulty getting to appointments, managing a schedule?
- Does the caregiver have difficulty getting the Individual to appointments or school?

**Ratings & Definitions**

- 0** Caregiver is well organized and efficient.  
Caregiver has minimal difficulties with organizing and maintaining household to support needed services. For example, may be forgetful about appointments or occasionally fails to return case manager calls.
- 1**
- 2** Caregiver has moderate difficulty organizing and maintaining household to support needed services.
- 3** Caregiver is unable to organize household to support needed services.

**RESOURCES** - This item describes the caregiver’s resources to support caring for individual.

**Questions to Consider**

- Does family have extended family or friends who provide emotional support?
- Can the family call on social supports to watch the Individual occasionally?

**Ratings & Definitions**

- 0** Caregiver has significant social and family networks that actively help with caregiving.
- 1** Caregiver has some family or friend social network that actively helps with caregiving.
- 2** Caregiver has some family or friend social network that may be able to help with parenting/caregiving.
- 3** Caregiver no family or social network that may be able to help with parenting/caregiving.

**PHYSICAL** - This item refers to medical and/or physical problems that the caregiver(s) may be experiencing that prevent or limit his or her ability to parent the Individual. This item does not rate depression or other mental health issues.

**Questions to Consider**

- How is the caregiver’s health?
- Does the caregiver have any health problems that limit his/her ability to care for the family?
- Does anyone else in the family have serious physical needs that the caregiver is taking care of?

**Ratings & Definitions**

- 0** Caregiver is generally healthy.
- 1** There is a history or suspicion of, and/or caregiver is in recovery from medical/physical problems.
- 2** Caregiver has medical/physical problems that interfere with his or her capacity to parent.
- 3** Caregiver has medical/physical problems that make parenting impossible at this time.

**MENTAL HEALTH** - This item refers to any serious mental health issues (not including substance abuse) among caregivers that might limit their capacity for parenting/caregiving to individual.

**Questions to Consider**

- Does the caregiver have any mental health needs that make parenting difficult?
- Does anyone else in the family have serious mental health needs that the caregiver is taking care of?

**Ratings & Definitions**

- 0** No evidence of caregiver mental health difficulties.
- 1** There is a history or suspicion of mental health difficulties, and/or caregiver is in recovery from mental health difficulties.
- 2** Caregiver has some mental health difficulties that interfere with his or her capacity to parent.
- 3** Caregiver has mental health difficulties that make it impossible for him/her to parent at this time.

**SUBSTANCE USE** - This item rates the impact of any notable substance use by caregivers that might limit their capacity to provide care for the child.

Questions to Consider	Ratings & Definitions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Do caregivers have any substance abuse needs that make parenting difficult?</li> <li>→ Does anyone else in the family have a serious substance abuse need that the caregiver impacting resources for caregiving?</li> </ul>	<p><b>0</b> No evidence of caregiver substance use issues.</p> <hr/> <p><b>1</b> There is a history, suspicion or mild use of substances and/or caregiver is in recovery from substance abuse difficulties where there is no interference in his/her ability to parent.</p> <hr/> <p><b>2</b> Caregiver has some substance abuse difficulties that interfere with his or her capacity to parent.</p> <hr/> <p><b>3</b> Caregiver has substance abuse difficulties that make it impossible for him/her to parent at this time.</p>

**DEVELOPMENTAL** - This item describes the presence of limited cognitive capacity or developmental disabilities that challenges his or her ability to parent.

Questions to Consider	Ratings & Definitions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Does the caregiver have developmental challenges that make parenting/caring for the child difficult?</li> </ul>	<p><b>0</b> Caregiver has no developmental needs.</p> <hr/> <p><b>1</b> Caregiver has developmental challenges but s/he does not currently interfere with parenting.</p> <hr/> <p><b>2</b> Caregiver has developmental challenges that interfere with his/her capacity to parent.</p> <hr/> <p><b>3</b> Caregiver has severe developmental challenges that make it impossible for him/her to parent at this time.</p>

**SAFETY** - This item describes the caregiver’s ability to maintain safety within the household. This rating refers to the safety of the individual assessed. It does not refer to the safety of other family or household members based on any danger presented by the assessed individual.

Questions to Consider	Ratings & Definitions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Is the caregiver able to protect the Individual from harm in the home?</li> <li>→ Are there individuals living in the home or visiting the home that may be abusive to the individual?</li> </ul>	<p><b>0</b> Household is safe and secure. Individual is at no risk from others.</p> <hr/> <p><b>1</b> Household is safe but concerns exist about the safety of the Individual due to history or others who might be abusive.</p> <hr/> <p><b>2</b> Individual is in some danger from one or more individuals with access to the household.</p> <hr/> <p><b>3</b> Individual is in immediate danger from one or more individuals with unsupervised access.</p>

**FAMILY STRESS** - This is the impact of the individual’s behavioral and emotional needs on the family’s stress level.

Questions to Consider	Ratings & Definitions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Do caregivers find it stressful at times to manage the challenges in dealing with the Individual’s needs?</li> <li>→ Is the stress hard for them to manage at times?</li> <li>→ Does the stress ever interfere with ability to care for the individual?</li> </ul>	<p><b>0</b> No evidence of caregiver having difficulty managing the stress of the individual’s needs and/or caregiver is able to manage the stress of individual’s needs.</p> <hr/> <p><b>1</b> There is a history or suspicion and/or caregiver has some problems managing the stress of individual’s needs.</p> <hr/> <p><b>2</b> Caregiver has notable problems managing the stress of Individual’s needs. This stress interferes with his or her capacity to provide care.</p> <hr/> <p><b>3</b> Caregiver is unable to manage the stress associated with individual’s needs. This stress prevents caregiver from parenting.</p>