

Sexuality Assessment: Assessment of Competency, Safety, and Ability to Give Consent

Initial considerations

- _____ Both residents individually express a desire to be involved in a sexual relationship with each other and both are willing participants.
- _____ Is the sexual relationship contraindicated by a physician's order?
- _____ Does either resident have any disease that can be transmitted through sexual contact?
- _____ Has the IDT Team, physician, or mental health professional determined that the individual does not have the capacity to give consent to sexual activity?
- _____ Does the resident score greater than 14-18 on the Mini-Mental State exam (MMSE)?
- _____ Does the resident have a legal guardian that does not consent to the sexual relationship?
- _____ Does sexual activity pose a threat to the health and safety of either individual in the relationship?

Privacy

- _____ Resident understands that some body parts are private and should not be displayed in public.
- _____ The resident can distinguish between private versus public behavior and information.
- _____ Is aware of the need for privacy, both auditory and visual.
- _____ Is aware of appropriate "time and place" to express affection.
- _____ Understands concept of a private, acceptable location(e.g., not with roommates present, curtain is drawn, door is shut).

Resident's awareness of the relationship

- _____ Is the resident aware of who is initiating sexual contact?
- _____ Does delusion or misidentification affect the resident's choice? (Example - Mistaking the other person for their spouse).
- _____ Can the resident state what level of sexual intimacy they would be comfortable with?

Can the resident avoid exploitation?

- _____ Is the behavior consistent with previously held beliefs and values?
- _____ Does the resident have the capacity to say "No" to uninvited sexual contact?
- _____ Does the resident voice statements of fear or reluctance?

Is the resident aware of potential risks?

- _____ Does the resident realize that the relationship may be time-limited (e.g. if a placement is temporary)?
- _____ Can the resident describe how they will react when/if the relationship ends?
- _____ Is aware of options for contraception.
- _____ Can describe the function and use of contraceptives.
- _____ Understands risks of potential pregnancy, STDs, injury, etc.

Body parts and function

- _____ Knows that certain personal activities are to take place in private (e.g., toileting, masturbation, etc.).
- _____ Knows normalcy and health of both male and female genitalia.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the human life cycle and the changes that the body undergoes through time.
- _____ Has full knowledge of appropriate ways to express sexuality.

Personal relationships

- _____ Knowledgeable of the concept of dating.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the concepts of marriage and divorce.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the concepts of heterosexual, homosexual, monogamous, and bigamous relationships.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the concept of abstinence.
- _____ Knowledgeable of safer sex practices.

Personal rights and responsibilities

- _____ Knows that whether or not to engage in sexual activity is a choice that one decides.
- _____ Understands concept of "consent".
- _____ Knows that he or she decides whether or not someone else may touch him or her.
- _____ Can respect another's right not to be touched.
- _____ Knows personal limits and boundaries in a relationship.
- _____ Knows how to appropriately control sexual desire.

Sexual abuse

- _____ Knowledgeable of the concepts of rape, how to prevent it, and how to report it.
- _____ Knowledgeable of sexual abuse and exploitation.
- _____ Can identify the signs of sexual abuse.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the concept of sexual harassment.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the emotional and psychological impact of rape, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment.
- _____ Knows how to report sexual abuse, rape, and sexual harassment,

and can identify a person or place to go for assistance.

Sexually transmitted diseases

- _____ Is aware of possible consequences of unprotected sexual activity.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the concept, causes, and ramifications of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS.
- _____ Knowledgeable of the signs and symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS.

SOURCE: <http://www.nursinghomepro.com/>