

Targeted Measurement Tools

Targeted measurement tools have an impact on how state agencies license and monitor their facilities. The four basic types of targeted measurement tools include:

- 1 Key Indicator Systems** identify a subset of regulations from an existing set of regulations that statistically predict compliance with the entire set of regulation.
- 2 Risk Assessment** assigns weighted scores to regulations based on the level of risk to persons in care in the event of regulatory compliance.
- 3 Differential Monitoring** determines the number and scope of inspections at a given licensed setting based on the setting's licensing history.
- 4 Quality Indicator Systems** Identify a subset of an existing set of regulations and other non-regulatory factors to predict the overall quality of care provided by a licensed setting.

The National Association for Regulatory Administration is an international professional membership association founded in 1976 dedicated to the protection of the health, safety and well-being of children and adults in day or residential human care facilities through strong licensing and other forms of regulation.

Consumer Protection Through Prevention

NARA members work together to bring the highest quality of comprehensive, evidence-based professional development services within reach of every human care regulatory agency and every individual who is, or who aspires to become, a professional human care regulator.

The number of children and vulnerable adults in out-of-home care is at an all-time high and growing. NARA provides leadership and forums for broad public consideration of their protection in an era of downsizing, regulatory reform, privatization and other challenges to find effective and affordable means of consumer protection and support for an expanding human care and service industry. Among our partners are providers, consumers and their families, regulators, advocates, concerned citizens, business and religious communities, policymakers, universities, researchers and allied professionals from the academic, technical and treatment disciplines.

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KEY INDICATOR SYSTEMS



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Key Indicator Systems

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Maximizing Performance ... Minimizing Costs

Indicator systems generally lead to cost efficiencies and overall effectiveness.

Rather than having a paradigm of one size fits all, state agencies use an indicator system to reward high-compliance programs with fewer monitoring visits, and target facilities with a history of non-compliance with more comprehensive and additional visits.

Licensing Indicator Systems

The purpose of a licensing indicator system is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of an existing licensing system by refocusing the emphasis of the licensing process. It is intended to complement, and not replace, an existing licensing measurement system.

Through use of the licensing indicator system, less time is spent conducting annual inspections of facilities with a history of high compliance with licensing rules. This allows more time for focusing on a) providing technical assistance to help low-compliance facilities comply with licensing rules, and b) conducting additional inspections of facilities and agencies with low compliance with licensing rules.

The licensing indicator system is actually a shortened version of a comprehensive licensing inspection instrument. A small number of rules are selected based on a statistical methodology designed for this specific purpose. The licensing indicator system uses a measurement tool, designed to measure compliance with a smaller number of rules, but that predicts high compliance with all the rules. If a facility is in complete compliance with all of the rules measured in the licensing indicator system, high compliance with all the rules is statistically predicted.

It is critical to understand that the rules for the licensing indicator system are research-based, selected statistically and not based on value judgment or arbitrary assignment, risk assessment or frequent rule violations. Moreover, the system has been used for over 30 years, successfully implemented in several states and applied to different human-care licensing programs—in short, it is time-tested and demonstrated to be an effective tool in consumer protection.

Why should you choose NARA to develop your licensing indicator system?

- Professionals at the National Association for Regulatory Administration have been developing and refining targeted measurement tools for over 30 years.
- NARA has assisted dozens of states and provinces in creating program-specific research, training and customized technical assistance for child care and residential care settings, older adult care settings and settings for persons with intellectual disabilities.
- NARA's methods are time-tested and proven to maximize agency performance without sacrificing the health and safety of persons in care.

Who benefits from licensing indicator systems?

- State and federal governments are able to contain program costs without harming vulnerable populations.
- Licensing agencies can allocate limited resources to the most troubled or problematic licensees.
- Providers are rewarded for high compliance by abbreviated inspections.
- The advocacy community is assured that every person in care is protected without compromising licensing enforcement actions or technical assistance.