

## Purpose

This document serves as a summary of the LOC Algorithm Version (V) 2.3, which determines a participant's Nursing Facility Level of Care (LOC). The LOC Algorithm V 2.3 should be used to determine a participant's LOC. However, this guide serves as a blueprint for stakeholders and participants to gain a deeper understanding of the LOC algorithm.

## Behavioral

Determine if the participant:

- Receives monitoring for a mental condition
- Exhibits one of the following mood or behavior symptoms: wandering, physical abuse, socially inappropriate or disruptive behavior, inappropriate public sexual behavior or public disrobing, resists care
- Exhibits one of the following psychiatric conditions: abnormal thoughts, delusions, hallucinations

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
<p>Stable mental condition <b>AND</b> No mood or behavior symptoms observed <b>AND</b> No reported psychiatric conditions</p>	<p>Stable mental condition monitored by a physician or licensed mental health professional at least monthly <b>OR</b> <b>Behavior</b> symptoms exhibited in past, but not currently present <b>OR</b> <b>Psychiatric</b> conditions exhibited in past, but not recently present</p>	<p>Unstable mental condition monitored by a physician or licensed mental health professional at least monthly <b>OR</b> <b>Behavior</b> symptoms are currently exhibited <b>OR</b> <b>Psychiatric</b> conditions are recently exhibited</p>	<p>Unstable mental condition monitored by a physician or licensed mental health professional at least monthly <b>AND</b> <b>Behavior</b> symptoms are currently exhibited <b>OR</b> <b>Psychiatric</b> conditions are currently exhibit</p>	N/A

## Cognition

Determine if the participant has an issue in one or more of the following areas:

- Cognitive skills for daily decision making.
- Memory or recall ability (short-term, procedural, situational memory)
- Disorganized thinking/awareness; mental function varies over the course of the day
- Ability to understand others or to be understood

<b>0 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>6 Points</b>	<b>9 Points</b>	<b>18 Points</b>
<p>No issues with cognition <b>OR</b> No issues with memory, mental function, or ability to be understood/understand others</p>	<p>Displays difficulty making decisions in new situations or <b>occasionally</b> requires supervision in decision making <b>AND</b> Has issues with memory, mental function, or ability to be understood/understand others</p>	<p>Displays <b>consistent</b> unsafe/poor decision making or requires total supervision <b>AND</b> Has issues with memory, mental function, or ability to be understood/understand others</p>	<p><b>Rarely or never</b> has the capability to make decisions <b>OR</b> Displays <b>consistent</b> unsafe/poor decision making or requires total supervision <b>AND</b> <b>Rarely or never</b> understood/able to understand others</p>	<p>TRIGGER: Comatose state</p>

## Mobility

- Determine the participant's primary mode of locomotion
- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs with:
  - Locomotion: how moves walking or wheeling, if wheeling how much assistance is needed once in the chair
  - Bed Mobility: transition from lying to sitting, turning, etc.

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
<p>No issues with cognition <b>OR</b> No issues with memory, mental function, or ability to be understood/understand others</p>	<p>Displays difficulty making decisions in <b>new situations</b> or occasionally <b>requires supervision</b> in decision making <b>AND</b> Has issues with memory, mental function, or ability to be understood/understand others</p>	<p>Displays <b>consistent</b> unsafe/poor decision making or requires total supervision <b>AND</b> Has issues with memory, mental function, or ability to be understood/understand others</p>	<p><b>Rarely or never</b> has the capability to make decisions <b>OR</b> Displays <b>consistent</b> unsafe/poor decision making or requires total supervision <b>AND</b> <b>rarely or never</b> understood/able to understand others</p>	<p>TRIGGER: Comatose state</p>

## Eating

- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs with eating and drinking. Includes intake of nourishment by other means (e.g. tube feeding or TPN)
- Determine if the participant requires a physician ordered diet

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
No assistance needed <b>AND</b> No physician ordered diet	Physician ordered therapeutic diet <b>OR</b> Set up, supervision, or limited assistance needed with eating	Moderate assistance needed with eating. <b>Participant</b> performs more than 50% of the task independently	Maximum assistance needed with eating. Participant requires <b>caregiver</b> to perform more than 50% of task.	TRIGGER: Total dependence on others

## Toileting

- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs with toileting. Toileting includes using the toilet (bedpan, urinal, commode), changing incontinent episodes, managing catheters/ostomies, and adjusting clothing
- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs with transferring on/off the toilet

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
No assistance needed <b>OR</b> Only set up or supervision needed	Limited or moderate assistance needed. <b>Participant</b> performs more than 50% of task independently	Maximum assistance needed. Participant needs <b>2 or more helpers or more than 50% of caregiver weight-bearing assistance</b>	<b>Total dependence</b> on others	N/A

## Bathing

- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs with bathing. Bathing includes taking a full body bath/shower and the transferring in and out of the bath/shower

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
No assistance needed <b>OR</b> Only set up or supervision needed	Limited or moderate assistance needed. <b>Participant</b> performs more than 50% of task independently	Maximum assistance needed with eating. Participant requires <b>caregiver</b> to perform more than 50% of task. <b>OR</b> <b>Total dependence</b> on others	N/A	N/A

## Dressing & Grooming

- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs with:
  - Personal hygiene
  - Dressing upper body
  - Dressing lower body

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
No assistance needed <b>OR</b> Only set up or supervision needed	Limited or moderate assistance needed. <b>Participant</b> performs more than 50% of task independently	Maximum assistance needed. Participant needs <b>2 or more helpers or more than 50%</b> of caregiver weight-bearing assistance <b>OR</b> <b>Total dependence</b> on others	N/A	N/A

## Rehabilitation

- Determine if the participant has any of the following medically ordered therapeutic services:
  - Physical therapy
  - Occupational therapy
  - Speech-language pathology and audiology services
  - Cardiac rehabilitation

<b>0 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>6 Points</b>	<b>9 Points</b>	<b>18 Points</b>
None of the above therapies ordered	Any of the above therapies ordered 1 time per week	Any of the above therapies ordered 2-3 times per week	Any of the above therapies ordered 4 or more times per week	N/A

## Treatments

- Determine if the participant requires any of the following treatments:
  - Catheter/Ostomy care
  - Alternate modes of nutrition (tube feeding, TPN)
  - Suctioning
  - Ventilator/respirator
  - Wound care (skin must be broken)

<b>0 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>6 Points</b>	<b>9 Points</b>	<b>18 Points</b>
None of the above therapies ordered	N/A	One or more of the above treatments are needed	N/A	N/A

## Meal Prep

- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs to prepare a meal. This includes planning, assembling ingredients, cooking, and setting out the food and utensils

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
No assistance needed <b>OR</b> Only set up or supervision needed	Limited or moderate assistance needed. <b>Participant</b> performs more than 50% of task independently	Maximum assistance needed with eating. Participant requires <b>caregiver</b> to perform more than 50% of task. <b>OR</b> <b>Total dependence</b> on others	N/A	N/A

## Medication Management

- Determine the amount of assistance the participant needs to safely manage their medications. Assistance may be needed due to a physical or mental disability.

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
No assistance needed <b>OR</b> Supervision needed <b>OR</b> Limited or moderate assistance needed. <b>Participant</b> performs more than 50% of task	Setup help needed <b>OR</b> Supervision needed <b>OR</b> Limited or moderate assistance needed. <b>Participant</b> performs more than 50% of task	Maximum assistance needed. <b>Caregiver</b> performs more than 50% of task. <b>OR</b> <b>Total dependence</b> on others	N/A	N/A

## Safety

- Determine if the individual exhibits any of the following risk factors:
  - Vision impairment
  - Falling
  - Balance: moving to standing position, turning to face the opposite direction, dizziness, or unsteady gait
- After determination of preliminary score, history of institutionalization in the last 5 years and age will be considered to determine final score
  - Institutionalization: long term care facility, RCF/ALF, mental health residence, psychiatric hospital, inpatient substance abuse, settings for persons with intellectual disabilities
  - Age 75 years and over

0 Points	3 Points	6 Points	9 Points	18 Points
No difficulty or some difficulty with vision <b>AND</b> No falls in the last 90 days <b>AND</b> No recent problems with balance	<b>Severe</b> difficulty with vision (sees only lights and shapes) <b>OR</b> Has fallen in last 90 days <b>OR</b> Has current problems with balance <b>OR</b> Preliminary score of '0' <b>AND</b> Age <b>or</b> institutionalization	No vision <b>OR</b> Has fallen in last 90 days <b>AND</b> Has current problems with balance <b>OR</b> Preliminary score of '0' <b>AND</b> Age <b>AND</b> Institutionalization <b>OR</b> Preliminary score of '3' <b>AND</b> Age <b>or</b> institutionalization	Preliminary score of '6' <b>AND</b> Institutionalization	TRIGGER: Preliminary score of 6 <b>AND</b> Age <b>OR</b> Preliminary score of '3' <b>AND</b> Age <b>AND</b> Institutionalization