

# Quarterly Report of the Order of Selection Task Force

Reporting Period: November 2010 – May 2011

**Report Date:** May 9, 2011

**Task Force Chair:** Casey Haddix, Psy.D.

**Task Force Members:** Erick Collazo, Jennifer Carotenuto

**BSCIP Task Force Liaison:** Thom DeLilla

**BSCIP Task Force Staff:** Michael Greif, Suzanne Kelly

## **Task Force Goal(s):**

Provide BSCIP Advisory Council with recommendations to assist in more clearly defining an order of selection process including 1) how to determine when an order of selection is necessary and initiated; 2) how the order of selection will be carried out in terms of who would be provided services and/or what services would be provided; 3) when to rescind the order of selection; and 4) in supplement, the task force will provide for review to the BSCIP Advisory Council any additional information or recommendations which may be identified during the course of fulfilling the primary charges as above.

## **Progress:**

The task force has welcomed and would like to thank our new member, Jennifer Carotenuto of Tampa General Hospital, who manages adult and pediatric IP/OP rehabilitation services.

In addition to the task force discussions, consultations have been held with, and we would like to thank, Linda Parnell of the Florida Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and Cheryl Vines of the Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission. The task force has also reviewed the program equivalent in the state of Georgia and is awaiting a rescheduled conference call with its representative.

Goal 1: To determine when an order of selection is necessary and initiated.

Status: Ongoing

The task force has identified that:

- 1) The BSCIP quarterly budget needs projection versus quarterly budget allowance would best serve as the indicator to determine necessity of an order of selection as allowance beyond each quarter cannot be accurately determined.
- 2) The quarterly budget needs projection will be determined by the average cost per client and ascertained from most recent fiscal outcomes (i.e.

- Based on BSCIP figures from fiscal years 2006-2009: fiscal year 2006-07 identified an average cost per client of \$8,067; 2007-08 an average of \$8,541; and 2008-09 \$7,367).
- 3) An order of selection process would be initiated when the amount of services and/or clients to be served within a fiscal quarter exceeds the quarterly budget allowance.
  - 4) Current fiscal year budget needs are estimated at \$7500-\$8000 per client, and quarterly budget allowance is forthcoming.

Goal 2: To determine how the order of selection will be carried out in terms of who would be provided services and/or what services would be provided.

Status: Ongoing

In order to develop the process more efficiently, the task force has researched several order of selection models. These models make provisions to meet budgetary shortcomings through limitations of the individuals who are eligible, the services provided to eligible individuals, the eligibility of both individuals and services, the amount and type of funding for individuals and services, and program funding reductions via client contributions based on income level:

- 1) Federally funded programs such as Vocational Rehabilitation require an inherent order of selection process limiting eligible individuals by serving all needs of most severe first, then less severe stratifications as funds become available. The Voc Rehab program in Florida uses automated information system for stratifications. VR identifies a limit on eligible individuals (severity= number of barriers & services, length of time), services provided (functional areas allowed by federal law), and a client income limit for requirement of financial supplement for services needed (120% federal poverty level).
- 2) State funded programs such as Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission also use inherent order of selection process and stratify priorities by newly injured and most severe clients first (meeting 3 of 4 major symptoms). The program provides life-long case management, but places limits on the services eligible (no IP, vehicle modifications, services funded by other programs), amount of funding for eligible services (\$2500), and a client income limit for requirement of financial supplement for services needed (100% federal poverty level & sliding scale above that level).
- 3) State funded programs such as Georgia use a time since injury cutoff (2 years) and allows provisions to be made on a demonstration of needs basis (greater independence, support within the community, result in long term outcome) with clients identified as most needy funded first. The program places limits the services for which funding can be used (no emergent housing, vehicle repairs, furniture, medications, medical insurance), and identify a lifetime limit on the funding for each client (\$15,000).
- 4) An order of selection for BSCIP may incorporate some adaptation of any or all limitations as noted by these programs, and it has also been

discussed that the order of selection could be effective with more stringent limits on the current funding practices.

Goal 3: To determine when to rescind the order of selection. Status: Ongoing

The task force has identified that:

- 1) The rescinding of an order of selection would occur when the quarterly budget allowance exceeds the needs projection for services and/or clients to be served within a fiscal quarter.

Goal 4: Additional information and recommendations.

Status: Ongoing

The task force has discussed potential suggestions to the Advisory Council:

- 1) Reducing fees for services such as diagnostics via standardized abbreviated assessments
- 2) Developing/refining (borrowing from VR) an information systems program in assistance of the program as a whole
- 3) Considering changes to the rules governing the scope of services (Capping funds) or
- 4) Obligating funds to currently ineligible services

**Meetings/Conference Calls Held:**

Began January 31, 2011 bimonthly

Changed to weekly beginning March 29, 2011.

**Next Scheduled Meeting(s):**

Weekly beginning Monday May 16, 2011 from 3:30-4:30 p.m., EST