

## Alameda County Child Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Ages Birth to 24

The new CANS Birth to 24 will be going live on **July 6, 2020**. The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Alameda County's CANS shall integrate the Early Childhood Birth to 5 version, Child and Youth Ages 6-17 version and the Transitional Age Youth ages 18-24 version into one. The CANS Birth to 24 will be compliant with the CA state requirements and guidelines.

CANS Birth to 24 will have 10 Domains.

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Life Functioning Domain                 | (Ages 0-5) (Ages 6-24) |
| 2. Behavioral/Emotional Needs Domain       | (Ages 0-5) (Ages 6-24) |
| 3. Individual Strengths Domain             | (Ages 0-5) (Ages 6-24) |
| 4. Risk Behaviors and Factors              | (Ages 0-5) (Ages 6-24) |
| 5. Cultural Factors                        | (Ages 0-24)            |
| 6. Developmental Factors/Milestones        | (Ages 6-24, Optional)  |
| 7. Dyadic Considerations Domain            | (Ages 0-5)             |
| 8. Traumatic/Adverse Childhood Experiences | (Ages 0-24)            |
| 9. Traumatic Stress Symptoms               | (Ages 6-24)            |
| 10. Transition Age Youth Domain            | (Ages 18-24)           |

Within each domain, there will be sub-sections by age groups as some questions are age specific. For example, the question on 'Vocation' is not relevant for Birth to 5 and shall not be in their sub-section for their CANS.

There are 7 Extension modules. Extension modules are more specific questions that shall need to be answered based on a CANS response of a 1, 2, or 3 on certain questions. The 7 Extension Modules are:

- A. Daycare/Preschool Module (Ages 0-5)
- B. School Module (Ages 6-24)
- C. Developmental Needs Module (Ages 0-24)
- D. Substance Use Disorder Module (Ages 6-24)
- E. Suicide Risk Module (Ages 6-24)
- F. Dangerousness/Violence Module (Ages 6-24)
- G. Vocational/Career Module (Ages 18-24)





All changes made to the CANS Birth to 24 were data driven decisions made by looking carefully at many assessments and reports over the past 3 years.

### **Implementation Guide and Timeline**

All programs who are currently required to complete the CANS 0-5, 6-17 and ANSA-T shall now convert to CANS Birth to 24. The use of CANS Birth to 24 assessment shall begin on **July 6, 2020**. The use of the old version of CANS including Early Childhood 0-5, CANS 2.0 Ages 6-17, and ANSA-T shall be discontinued on July 5, 2020 with the exception of agencies where CANS data is embedded in their electronic health record. Agencies that embed their CANS data on their electronic health record shall make the changes by **September 30, 2020**. The CSV format instruction and guides are also attached which is for agencies that collect and submit their CANS data through their electronic health record.

Attached are the CANS Birth to 24 manual and scoresheet in English. The Spanish, Chinese, Farsi, Tagalog and Vietnamese language versions shall be coming later.

The CANS Birth to 24 manual and scoresheet can be found on the Alameda County Behavioral Health provider website under the CANS/ANSA tab. Here is the link:

<http://www.acbhcs.org/providers/CANS/manuals.htm>

### **Information on CANS Birth to 24 Conversion:**

Reference to 'Assessors' includes anyone who is Alameda County CANS/ANSA certified and will be completing the Alameda County CANS assessment.

- CANS Birth to 24 shall be used for all new clients ages 0-24 years starting July 6, 2020
- For current clients on your open caseload, please begin to use the new CANS Birth to 24 when their update CANS is due and when the discharge CANS is due.
- The assessor will **no** longer need to complete a CANS discharge assessment or a CANS initial assessment once the child reaches age 6 or when a youth reaches age 18 due to the change in CANS version. There will be no age barriers with CANS Birth to 24. (This only applied when a





client reached age 6 or when a client reached 18 while you were working with them.)

- Assessors do not need to start with an 'Initial Assessment' to start using the CANS Birth to 24 version. Assessors should continue in their timeline and use the CANS Birth to 24 when their next CANS assessment is due.

### Agencies with CANS Embedded in Electronic Health Record

- For those agencies who have CANS embedded in your Electronic Health Record, the old versions of CANS and ANSA-T shall continue to function for several months while the new Birth to 24 version is functional. **The overlap will be until September 30, 2020.** At this point, the old versions will no longer be functional.
- Agencies who have CANS as part of their electronic health record shall make the changes to convert and the CSV conversion information is attached and also can be found on the Alameda County Behavioral Health provider website under CANS/ANSA tab under Objective Arts Resources in the Onboarding Resources section:  
<http://www.acbhcs.org/providers/CANS/resources.htm>
- Agencies should be uploading their CANS data weekly to Alameda County Information Systems.

### Other Clarifications about CANS Birth to 24:

- All data from past assessments will be converted over to the new CANS Birth to 24. There are some exceptions where the questions have been omitted on the new version and the data will not convert. That data will be stored with the county.
- Agencies who directly enter CANS and ANSA-T data on to Objective Arts will see very few changes. Assessors will now select 'CANS Birth to 24' under 'Assessment' in the drop down selection for all clients ages 0-24. Assessors shall complete all the questions that appear. Objective Arts is programmed to show age specific questions for the client. Please do not select, CANS 0-5, CANS 6-17 (post 7/18) or ANSA T under 'Assessment'.
- Spanish, Chinese, Farsi, Tagalog and Vietnamese language versions for the score sheet of CANS Birth to 24 shall be available in the coming months. They are currently in progress through the Praed Foundation.
- ANSA (Age 25+) shall not be affected by the CANS Birth to 24. Assessors shall continue to use the ANSA (Age 25+).





- CANS/ANSA assessments continue to be required at initial intake, on-going 6 months and at discharge.

### **CANS/ANSA Certificaton Tests**

- CANS/ANSA recertification shall continue on the Schoox platform. The link is [www.tcomtraining.com](http://www.tcomtraining.com)
- CANS/ANSA live Certification trainings are offered monthly and recommended for new staff and for those who need a refresher.
- Assessors shall need to be certified in order to complete the CANS/ANSA.
- Annual CANS/ANSA recertification shall continued to be required for completing the CANS/ANSA assessments.
- If you are currently CANS/ANSA certified, a new certification shall not be needed to complete the new CANS Birth to 24. Please re-certify before your natural expiration date.

### **Support with Conversion:**

There shall be several Information support calls with the CANS Coordinator and Objective Arts representative for providers who need more support on the implementation of the CANS Birth to 24. The dates and times are TBD and will be announced later.

Please contact Christine Mukai if you have any questions related to CANS Birth to 24 at: [Christine.Mukai@acgov.org](mailto:Christine.Mukai@acgov.org) or 510-567-8238.

### **Resources:**

For information on live CANS/ANSA Certification trainings as well as other CANS/ANSA trainings and resources, please go to the Alameda TCOM Collaborative website and look under training calendar: <http://www.alamedatcom.org/>

The Alameda TCOM Collaborative offers various trainings for using the CANS/ANSA tools including: Engagement, Treatment Plan, Supervision and Certification and can be offered at agencies. Please contact [Christine.Mukai@acgov.org](mailto:Christine.Mukai@acgov.org) for details.

