

County of San Diego Mental Health Plan  
**EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD AND ADOLESCENT NEEDS AND STRENGTHS (EC-CANS)**  
(Effective 7-1-19)

2019

**COMPLETED BY:**

1. Licensed/Waivered Psychologist
2. Licensed/Registered/Waivered Social Worker or Marriage and Family Therapist
3. Licensed/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor
4. Physician (MD or DO)
5. Nurse Practitioner

**COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Clinical staff administering the EC-CANS must be trained and pass an annual certification.
2. Certified clinical staff will complete the measure for clients 0-5 years of age receiving services from a mental health provider.
3. Completed at:
  - a. Admission into the program (within 30 days of CCBH intake date).
  - b. UM cycle or every 6 months (whichever occurs first).
  - c. Discharge (within 7 days from date of closing assignment).
4. Data must be entered into CYF mHOMS database:
  - a. Initial CANS must be entered within 30 days of CCBH intake date.
  - b. UM cycle or 6 month CANS must be entered prior to new UM cycle.
  - c. Discharge CANS must be entered within 7 days from CCBH discharge date.

**DOCUMENTATION STANDARDS:**

1. For each Domain Item, a rating of 0-3 must be determined, along with the corresponding documentation in the 0-5 BHA for ratings of a '2' or '3' on the initial or reassessments and in the Discharge Summary for the discharge assessment.
2. Clinicians must receive annual recertification to administer the tool by completing an on-line training course and passing a post test. The training can be accessed through the RIHS website: <https://theacademy.sdsu.edu/programs/rihs/cyf-outcomes/>
3. For questions about data entry contact CASRC:
  - a. [cyfmhoms@ucsd.edu](mailto:cyfmhoms@ucsd.edu)
  - b. 858-966-7703 ext. 243604
4. Medication only cases are exempt from completing the CANS.
5. Reports from CYF mHOMS database are to be reviewed by clinician with supervisor and shared with the caregivers and other professionals as appropriate (CFT meetings, CWS).
6. High need items (rated a '2' or '3') and centerpiece/identified strengths (rated a '0' and '1') are to be discussed with the family to inform and develop treatment goals.
7. Use the EC-CANS when completing UM to determine/identify eligibility criteria for additional services.

\* As a reminder for Children and Youth involved with Child Welfare Services (CWS), BHS providers are required to ensure that there is one current working CANS. CANS results obtained by BHS from CWS should inform the completion or updates to the CANS completed by the BHS provider.

*Note: Please see CANS Sharing Confirmation Sheet for additional information*