

Older Persons Star (Short Version)[™]

Guidance for Use

Is the Star[™] suitable for my service?

- Are you working with people to maximise their independence and well-being?
- Do you have a keywork relationship with the people you work with (i.e. do you review their individual needs, set goals and record actions in a support or action plan)?
- Do you work with people on all or most of the areas covered by the Older Person's Star?

If you answered yes to these three questions, the Older Person's Star is suitable for your service. If you have a 'light touch' keywork relationship and don't have time to complete the full version of the Older Person's Star then this short version is suitable for your service. For the full version of the Older Person's Star, including the User Guide and Organisation Guide with advice on implementation and using the Star in keywork, visit the Outcomes Star website: www.outcomesstar.org.uk.

Should we use the Star[™] with everyone?

You should use the Star with everyone for whom you want to find out more about their needs and develop a support or action plan.

When should people complete the Star[™]?

It is best if people complete it at the beginning of their time with the service and then again some time later once it is realistic to expect that some change may have been achieved (for example after three, six or 12 months). The difference between the first completion and the second completion gives a measure of the change or outcomes achieved.

Can people answer the questions and complete the Star[™] on their own?

The short version of the Older Person's Star can be used in two ways:

1. The older person can complete it on their own. They can then discuss their answers and Star with a worker and develop an action plan together.
2. The older person and worker can answer the questions and complete the Star and action plan together. This provides an opportunity for the worker to understand the person's needs and perspective in more depth.

Does the Star[™] replace the needs assessment?

Completing the Star will give an overall picture of where an older person's independence and well-being is being maximised and where it is not and will highlight potential areas of risk. However, the Older Person's Star does not give a detailed picture of support needs.

What do we do with the Star[™]?

Keep a copy of the Star Chart and Action Plan in the person's confidential file. It is also helpful to give a copy to the older person to keep.

How do we analyse the data?

The Star data can be analysed anonymously using a simple Excel spreadsheet – details of appropriate formats for presenting the data are given in the Older Person's Star Organisation Guide. For more detailed analysis and to enable older people to complete the Quiz online please visit www.staronline.org.uk.