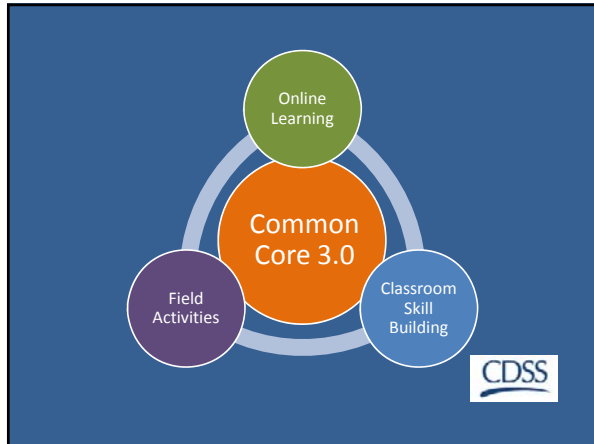




**Structured Decision Making Assessment
Knowledge and Skills Reinforcement Lab**
200 Level Assessment Block

California Common Core
Training Version 3.2 | June 30, 2017

Overview of the Day

- Welcome and Introductions
- Group Agreements
- Learning Objectives
- Individual Assessment of Skill
- Safety Decision
- Case Opening
- Case Planning
- Reunification
- Case Closure
- Wrap-Up
- End of Block Evaluations

Group Agreements



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Learning Objectives

- Describe a process to analyze and synthesize information from multiple sources when conducting a child welfare assessment.
- Identify how assessment can be impacted by contributing factors of: Individual, familial and historical trauma; Caregiver substance abuse; Mental health issues; Intimate partner violence; Poverty and deprivation.
- Identify a process for recognizing and addressing potential bias and understanding child welfare assessment from a cultural humility framework.
- Identify child maltreatment in a vignette.
- Apply SDM definitions and complete the following tools using a vignette:
 - SDM Safety Assessment Tool
 - SDM Risk Assessment Tool
 - SDM Family Strengths and Needs Tool

Learning Objectives

- Identify your own reactions and feelings and how to manage them and examine how feelings and reactions may impact children/families in the assessment process.
- Identify and have process strategies to address your feelings/reactions and reflect and integrate into practice via the vignette.
- Value obtaining consultation and fact checking as needed to conduct an effective assessment.
- Value being sensitive to factors that affect assessment such as fair, careful, and transparent use of authority, establishing productive relationships with families, and the possible interplay of individual, familial and historical trauma experienced by the family.
- Value assessment as an ongoing collaborative process with families, tribes and their support networks / family teams.

Training Methodology for the Day

- The Vignette: Polk/Hernandez Family
- You will be put into teams. Team members will rotate the role of the supervisor.
- Each team will receive information throughout the day about the Polk/Hernandez family.
- You will identify the key assessment issues, child maltreatment issues, and cultural factors for this family and use those to make decisions about safety, risk, and case planning.

Individual Assessment

- Take about 15 minutes to complete the short skill assessment related to the 100 Level curriculum:
 - Critical Thinking
 - Assessment Skills
 - Child Maltreatment Identification
 - Assessing Key Issues in Child Welfare



Teams



- You will be assigned to one of four teams.
- Teams will ideally have a mixture of staff working in different programs.
- Identify who will take on the role of the supervisor first. Everyone will have the opportunity to be the supervisor at some point.

Working a Case

- Your team will begin to receive information about the Polk/Hernandez family.
- At each step of the case, you will be asked to identify any cultural factors, key assessment issues, and child maltreatment issues in the case and complete the corresponding SDM assessment.
- Supervisors will take on the role of asking questions, coaching, being the voice of SDM, and providing guidance on the case.

Polk/Hernandez Safety Decision

- Read the beginning of the referral for the Polk/Hernandez family
- Use the Safety Assessment Handouts
- Complete the SDM Safety Assessment
- Voice of SDM – Remember your role



Polk/Hernandez Safety Decision

- What were the cultural factors, key assessment issues, and child maltreatment issues identified by your team?
- What was your safety decision – safe, safe with a plan, or unsafe?
- What do you think contributed to differences in our decision-making on this case?

Polk/Hernandez Case Opening Decision



- Read the next section of the referral for the Polk/Hernandez family
- Use the Risk Assessment worksheet
- Complete the SDM Risk Assessment
- Voice of SDM – Remember your role

Polk/Hernandez Case Opening Decision

- What were the cultural factors, key assessment issues, and child maltreatment issues identified by your team?
- What was your risk level – low, moderate, high, very high?
- What decision did you make about promoting this to a case?
- What do you think contributed to differences in our decision-making on this case?

Polk/Hernandez Case Planning

- Read the next section of the case for the Polk/Hernandez family
- Use the Family Strengths and Needs Assessment Worksheet
- Complete the SDM Family Strengths and Needs Assessment
- Voice of SDM – Remember your role



Polk/Hernandez Case Planning

- What were the cultural factors, key assessment issues, and child maltreatment issues identified by your team?
- What were the priority needs identified for this family?
- What do you think contributed to differences in our decision-making on this case?

Polk/Hernandez Reunification Decision

- Read the next section of the case for the Polk/Hernandez family.
- Use the Reunification Worksheet
- Complete the SDM Reunification Reassessment
- Voice of SDM – Remember your role



Polk/Hernandez Reunification Decision

- What were the cultural factors, key assessment issues, and child maltreatment issues identified by your team?
- What is the final risk level?
- Did you decide to reunify the children?
- What do you think contributed to differences in our decision-making on this case?

Polk/Hernandez Reunification/Case Closure Decision

- Read the next section of the case for the Polk/Hernandez family.
- Use the worksheet
- Complete the SDM Reunification Reassessment or Risk Reassessment
- Voice of SDM – Remember your role



Polk/Hernandez Reunification/Case Closure Decision

- What were the cultural factors, key assessment issues, and child maltreatment issues identified by your team?
- What is the final risk level?
- Did you decide to reunify the children or close the case?
- What do you think contributed to differences in our decision-making on this case?

Key Issues in Assessment



- How do you feel about the outcome of our work with the Polk/Hernandez family?
- What did you notice about the role of bias and misidentifying cultural factors?
- What are some of the critical assessment and child maltreatment issues that need to be identified in our cases?
- What role can your supervisor and others play in assisting with consultation?
- How might we use SDM to better guide our decision making on cases?

Your own Assessment

- What is one thing you heard or discussed today that you already do in your practice?
- What is one thing you heard or discussed today that you would like to do more of in your practice? Write it down.
- Find a partner and identify with them one thing you will do tomorrow to begin to enhance your assessment skills.

End of Block Exam