

## *Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (Avatar Desk Reference)*

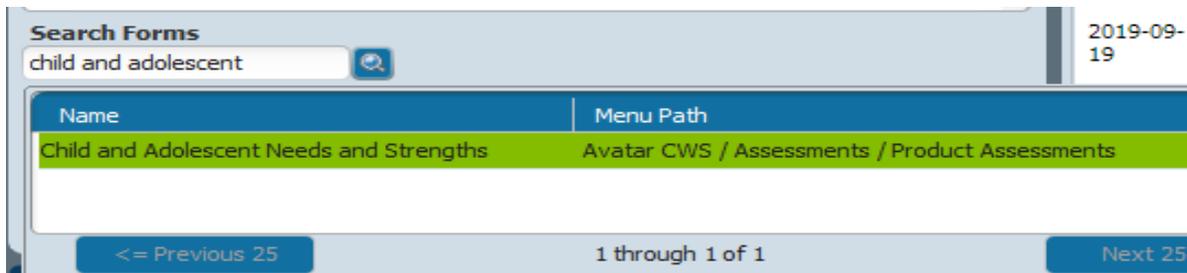
The purpose of this desk reference is to provide guidance in how to complete a Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment within the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Form in Avatar.

### **Heads Up!**

- If you need to deselect an option, please place cursor in field that needs to be deselected and use the F5 button on your keyboard.

## **Menu Path**

Avatar CWS > Assessments > Product Assessments > Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths or you can enter “Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths” under Search Forms.



The screenshot shows the 'Search Forms' interface in Avatar CWS. A search bar contains the text 'child and adolescent'. To the right of the search bar is a date '2019-09-19'. Below the search bar is a table with two columns: 'Name' and 'Menu Path'. The table contains one row with the following data:

Name	Menu Path
Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths	Avatar CWS / Assessments / Product Assessments

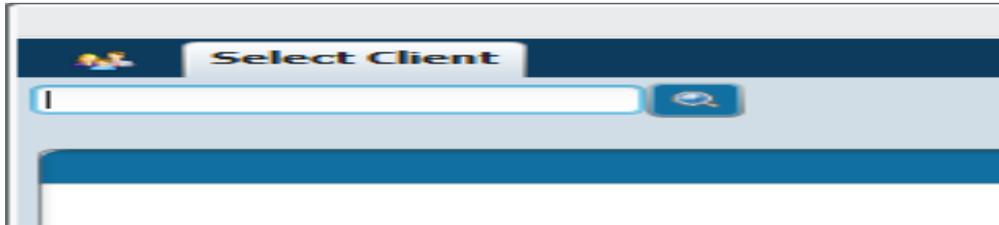
At the bottom of the search results, there are navigation buttons: '<= Previous 25', '1 through 1 of 1', and 'Next 25'.

## **Details**

- The CANS is a structured assessment for identifying youth and family actionable needs and useful strengths.
- The CANS assessment is a collaborative process (provider involves caregivers in scoring).
- The CANS is for children/youth ages 6 through 20.
- The CANS is to be completed at the beginning of treatment, every 6 months following the initial and at the end of treatment.

## Steps

- Open the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Form.
- Enter the client name (Name is in the format “Last Name, First name” or you can enter the Medical Record Number (MR#) if known.



- Select the appropriate episode. **REMINDER:** the episode cannot be an Access episode.

A screenshot of a web application interface showing a client record. The client's name is "TESTCLIENT, YOLO (00001136)". The record includes a table of episodes. The table has columns for "Episode", "Program", "Start", and "End". The first episode is highlighted in green.

Episode	Program	Start	End
01	1-HGA PFP PPS000	06/13/2018	
03	1-HGA MH SP0000	07/01/2018	
03	1-HGA MH SP0000	07/02/2017	04/30/2018
04	TRAINING POINT PFP	01/02/2017	04/30/2017

- Initial Section
  - Several fields pre-populate including:
    - Date of Birth
    - Gender
    - Race/Ethnicity
    - Assessor
    - Date of Assessment

- Enter the caregivers who participated in the CANS in the blank fields (Caregiver 1, Caregiver 2, Caregiver 3).
- The case name can be left blank.
- In the Case Number field, enter the Medi-Cal CIN number.
- Chose the appropriate Form Status button:
  - Initial – first assessment upon entering the mental health system (new clients or clients previously discharged).
  - Subsequent – follow up assessment at 6 months after the initial assessment.
  - Annual – 12 months from the initial assessment.
  - Discharge – the last assessment received when client leaves the mental health system.
  - Administrative Close – informs the system that the client has either stopped treatment or left the system and won't be receiving any further assessment data (scores). The scores can be left blank.
- Enter the Date of Assessment (note: this field pre-populates with the date the form was opened, “today,” and requires changing to the date the CANS was actually completed).

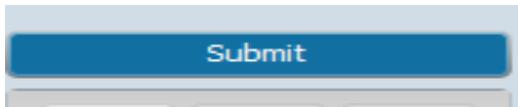
- In the 'Assessment Status' field leave the 'Draft' button selected until you have completed the entire form.



Assessment Status

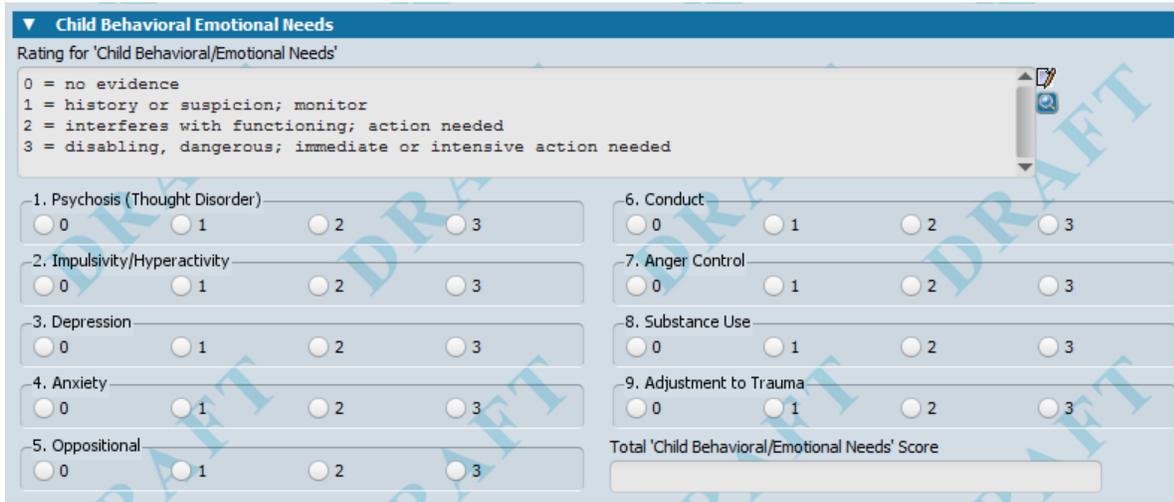
Draft  Final

- If you want to save your work and return to it later, leave the form in 'Draft' then click 'Submit.'



Submit

- Enter scores in the 'Child Behavioral Emotional Needs' section.



Child Behavioral Emotional Needs

Rating for 'Child Behavioral/Emotional Needs'

0 = no evidence  
1 = history or suspicion; monitor  
2 = interferes with functioning; action needed  
3 = disabling, dangerous; immediate or intensive action needed

1. Psychosis (Thought Disorder)	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
2. Impulsivity/Hyperactivity	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
3. Depression	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
4. Anxiety	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
5. Oppositional	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
6. Conduct	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
7. Anger Control	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
8. Substance Use	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3
9. Adjustment to Trauma	<input type="radio"/> 0 <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3

Total 'Child Behavioral/Emotional Needs' Score

Note: the "Total 'Child Behavioral/Emotional Needs' Score" field automatically calculates as the individual scores are entered.

- Enter scores in the ‘Life Domain Functioning’ section.

**Life Domain Functioning**

Rating for 'Life Domain Functioning'

0 = no evidence  
1 = history or suspicion; monitor  
2 = interferes with functioning; action needed  
3 = disabling, dangerous; immediate or intensive action needed

10. Family Functioning  
 0    1    2    3

11. Living Situation  
 0    1    2    3

12. Social Functioning  
 0    1    2    3

13. Developmental/Intellectual  
 0    1    2    3

14. Decision-Making  
 0    1    2    3

15. School Behavior  
 0    1    2    3

16. School Achievement  
 0    1    2    3

17. School Attendance  
 0    1    2    3

18. Medical/Physical  
 0    1    2    3

19. Sexual Development  
 0    1    2    3

20. Sleep  
 0    1    2    3

Total 'Life Domain Functioning' Score

Note: the “Total ‘Life Domain Functioning’ Score” field automatically calculates as the individual scores are entered.

- Enter scores in the ‘Risk Behaviors’ section.

**Risk Behaviors**

Rating for 'Risk Behaviors'

0 = no evidence  
1 = history or suspicion; monitor  
2 = interferes with functioning; action needed  
3 = disabling, dangerous; immediate or intensive action needed

21. Suicide Risk  
 0    1    2    3

22. Non-Suicidal Self-Injurious Behavior  
 0    1    2    3

23. Other Self-Harm (Recklessness)  
 0    1    2    3

24. Danger to Others  
 0    1    2    3

25. Sexual Aggression  
 0    1    2    3

26. Delinquent Behavior  
 0    1    2    3

27. Runaway  
 0    1    2    3

28. Intentional Misbehavior  
 0    1    2    3

Total 'Risk Behaviors' Score

Note: the “Total ‘Risk Behaviors’ Score” field automatically calculates as the individual scores are entered.

➤ Enter scores in the Cultural Factors section

**Cultural Factors**

Rating for 'Cultural Factors'

0 = no evidence  
1 = history or suspicion; monitor  
2 = interferes with functioning; action needed  
3 = disabling, dangerous; immediate or intensive action needed

29. Language  
 0    1    2    3

30. Traditions and Rituals  
 0    1    2    3

31. Cultural Stress  
 0    1    2    3

Total 'Cultural Factors' Score

Note: the “Total ‘Cultural Factors’ Score” field automatically calculates as the individual scores are entered.

➤ Enter scores in the Strengths Domain section

**Strengths Domain**

Rating for 'Strengths Domain'

0 = Centerpiece strength  
1 = Useful strength  
2 = Identified strength  
3 = No evidence

32. Family Strengths  
 0    1    2    3

33. Interpersonal  
 0    1    2    3

34. Educational Setting  
 0    1    2    3

35. Talents/Interests  
 0    1    2    3

36. Spiritual/Religious  
 0    1    2    3

37. Cultural Identity  
 0    1    2    3

38. Community Life  
 0    1    2    3

39. Natural Supports  
 0    1    2    3

40. Resiliency  
 0    1    2    3

Total 'Strengths Domain' Score

Note: the “Total ‘Strengths Domain’ Score” field automatically calculates as the individual scores are entered.

➤ Enter scores in the Caregiver Resources and Needs section

**▼ Caregiver Resources and Needs**

Rating for 'Caregiver Resources and Needs'

0 = no evidence  
1 = history or suspicion; monitor  
2 = interferes with functioning; action needed  
3 = disabling, dangerous; immediate or intensive action needed  
8 = not applicable

A. Caregiver Name:

41a. Supervision  
 0  1  2  3  8

42a. Involvement with Care  
 0  1  2  3  8

43a. Knowledge  
 0  1  2  3  8

44a. Social Resources  
 0  1  2  3  8

45a. Residential Stability  
 0  1  2  3  8

46a. Medical/Physical  
 0  1  2  3  8

47a. Mental Health  
 0  1  2  3  8

48a. Substance Use  
 0  1  2  3  8

49a. Developmental  
 0  1  2  3  8

50a. Safety  
 0  1  2  3  8

Total 'Caregiver Resources and Needs' Score

Youth has no known caregiver. Skip Caregiver Resources and Needs Domain.

Note: the “Total ‘Caregiver Resources and Needs’ Score” field automatically calculates as the individual scores are entered.

- Enter the name of the caregiver who is being assessed for the purpose of the CANS:

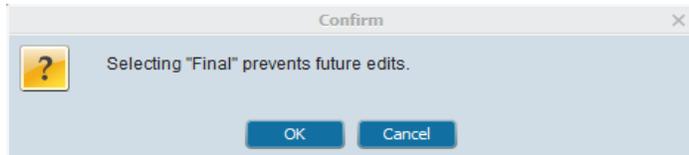
A. Caregiver Name:

- Select drop-down menu choice indicating if the client has a known caregiver or not. If the answer is “Yes” (that the client has no known caregiver), skip this section.

- Return to the top of the form and select 'Final' under 'Assessment Status' when you have completed the form.



- Upon clicking 'Final,' a text box will appear, click 'OK':



- Click Submit.

