Ohio DODD Waiver Modernization
Assessments Provider Discussion

April 2025

Agenda
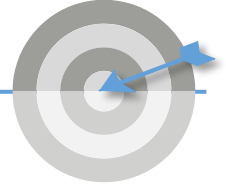Discussion topics and meeting goals

Discussion Topics

Assessment Status (15 min)
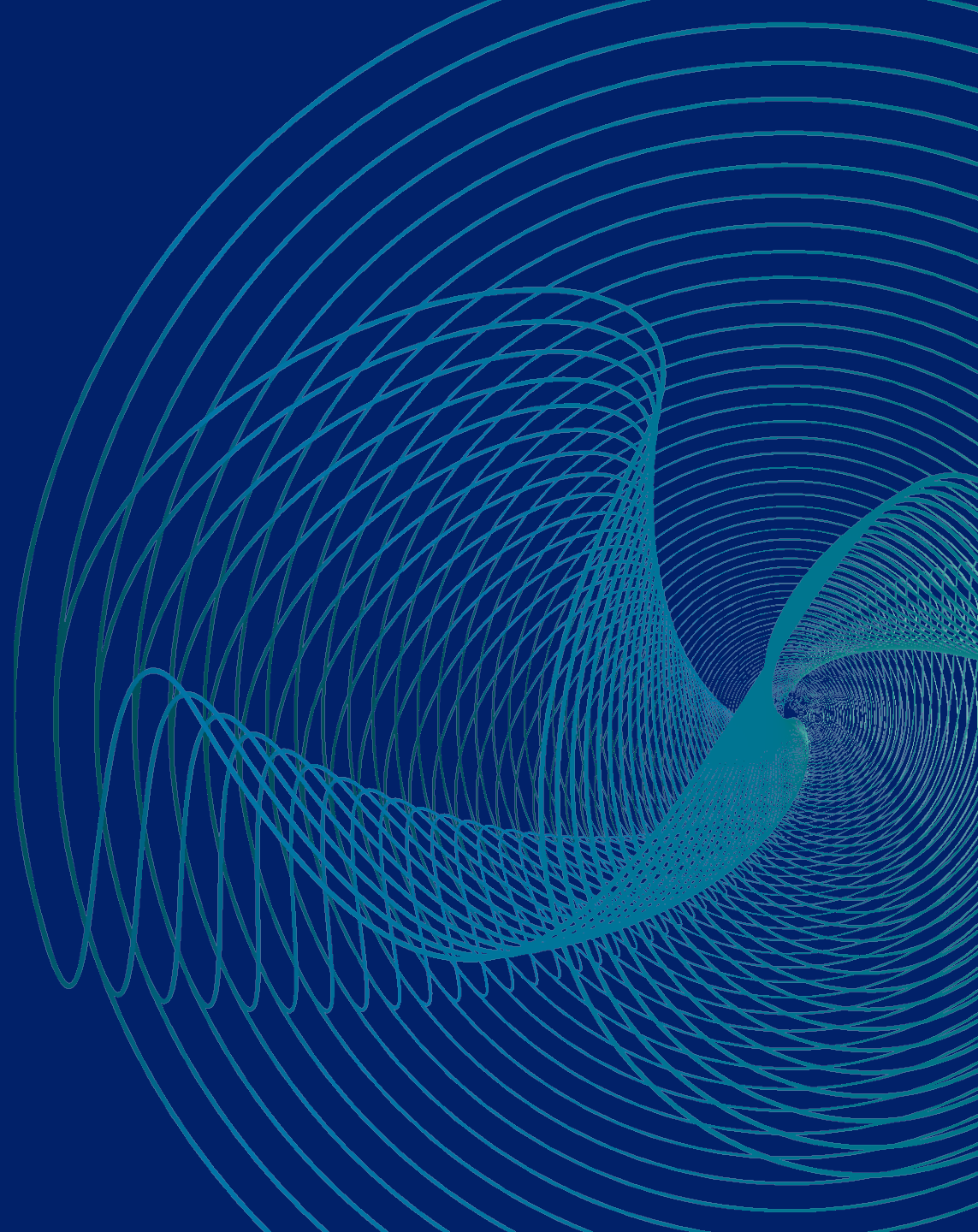
InterRAI Background (15 min)

Future State (10 min)

Implementation Plan (10 min)

Meeting Goals

Assessment Status: Share information on current status of outstanding assessment decision

interRAI Background: Regroup on interRAI background including assessment logistics and outputs of the assessment.

Future State: Share information on how assessments can be used for acuity rates and service bands in the future.

Implementation Plan: Share proposed plan for implementation of the new assessment.

Assessment
Status

State Partner Feedback - Overview

Highlighting key takeaways from various stakeholder groups – people served, families, providers, and counties – that drove the initiatives to transition towards a new assessment and acuity-based rates.

KEY STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Better **assess individual support needs**

Structure a more **consistent assessment process**

Build **rates** that accurately reflect **support and skills provided**

Reduce complexity of **budgeting** and **prior authorization** process

GROWTH AREAS	STAKEHOLDER TOWNHALLS	PROVIDER SURVEY FEEDBACK	COUNTY BOARD SURVEY FEEDBACK
	ODDP questions were **not detailed enough** to **accurately reflect the level of support** in the answer	Large administrative burden associated with **tracking individual funding** and budgets	**Lack of acuity-based rates drives providers to serve lower needs** individuals
	Sensitivity of ODDP scores – ranges, budgets, and rates – dramatic shift with 1-2 answers changed	Desire to implement an assessment process to **update acuity that is less burdensome** than current state	Provider **specialists should be paid accordingly** for skills and high-risk behavior management
	Insufficient assessment questions related to **medical and communication** tasks and needs.	**Prior authorization** process is administratively **burdensome** and **distracts from care** delivery	**Rates, budgets, and assessment process is inconsistent** across and within waivers which can be confusing and complex for individuals and families
			Funding ranges and rates **lack** the specificity or **reflection of the unique needs of children**

Assessment Update

Update on assessment decisions and highlighting key components of the decision process

Why the interRAI?

Meets DODD goals to implement a **strengths-based, standardized assessment tool**

Positive feedback on the tool in conversations with states using the interRAI

Covers the **breadth of questions** and topics to support **acuity-based rates***

Shorter assessment than current process and other standardized assessment options

Opportunity to **add components** of other interRAI tools **in the future**

PROPOSED APPROACH

Replace the current ODDP and AAI with **interRAI** standardized assessment tools in an expedited implementation timeline, targeting a go-live of 1/1/27

Why Now?

There are technological and operational considerations driving the targeted timeline:

DODD is looking to **transition away from the current MRC**. By **aligning assessment implementation with the decommissioning of the MRC**, it will **remove the need for an interim rate strategy** and therefore, the **burden of multiple transitions for providers.**

*Based on research and conversations with other states using the interRAI and their use cases

InterRAI
Background
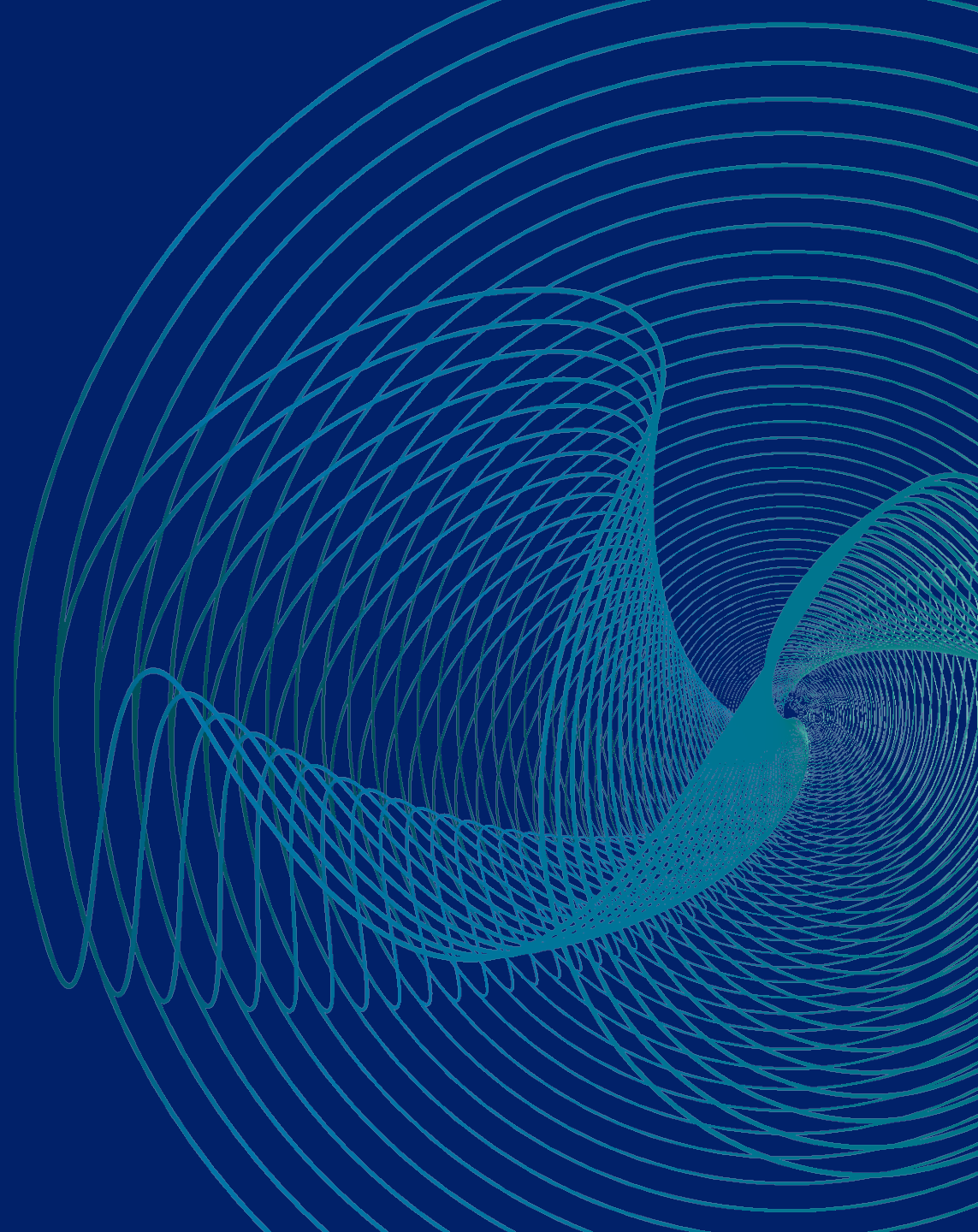
InterRAI Overview

The interRAI – ID is a tool available to assess individuals with IDD.

GENERAL

01 Assessment Logistics

- *~**1.5 hr** assessment duration*
- *Assessors **may use any information available to them** to answer questions, including observations of the individual's behavior*
- *There are three different assessments that are included in interRAI's suite of tools available based on age for the IDD population: **InterRAI – ID** (18+ years), **ChYMH-DD** (3-18 years), **Early Years** (0-3 years)*

02 Assessment Outputs

- ***Clinical Assessment Protocols** (CAPs); **Outcome Scales; Case-mix** classification*

03 Contracting/ Licensing

- *All users need to obtain a **free license** to use interRAI assessments (research or user license)*
- *Licensing requires **royalty payments** for use of intellectual property.*
- *Licensing requires **de-identified data to be shared** with interRAI for research*

04 Assessor Training

- ***In-depth training available** for a train the trainer approach*
- *Stakeholders report training being **less time consuming than SIS/AAIDD***

05 Technology

- *InterRAI does not produce software – **states must license through third-party vendors** who computerize the system to collect data*
- *InterRAI provides a list of possible third-party software vendors*

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

INTERRAI-ID **104**

INTERRAI CHYMH-DD **149**
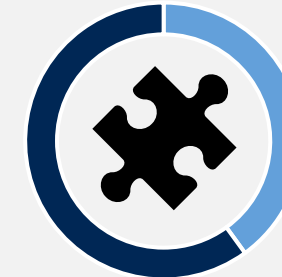
~75% Of questions on the interRAI CHYMH-DD have overlap with the interRAI – ID Assessment.

States currently using or exploring using interRAI for IDD community:

OR, IA, KS, NE, NY

InterRAI-ID Comprehensive Assessment

Core assessed items of the interRAI-ID tool
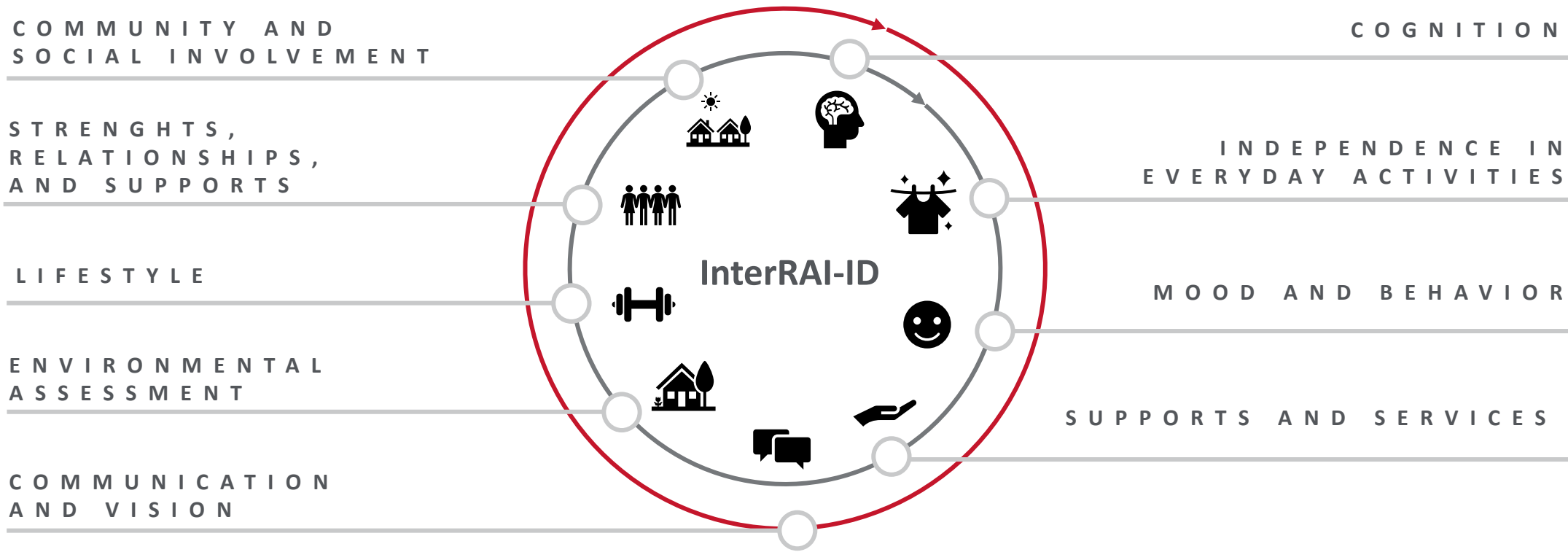
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COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT

STRENGHTS, RELATIONSHIPS, AND SUPPORTS

LIFESTYLE

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

COMMUNICATION AND VISION

InterRAI-ID

COGNITION

INDEPENDENCE IN EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES

MOOD AND BEHAVIOR

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES

Additional questions related to identification, intake, and medical status are captured in alternate assessment sections.

InterRAI ChYMH-DD Comprehensive Assessment

Core assessed items of the interRAI ChYMH-DD tool

DRAFT

InterRAI
ChYMH-DD

MENTAL STATE INDICATORS

SUBSTANCE USE OR EXCESSIVE BEHAVIOR

HARM TO SELF OR OTHERS

BEHAVIOR/ PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL-BEING

STRENGTHS AND RESILIENCE

COGNITIVE AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

INDEPENDENCE IN DAILY ACTIVITIES

COMMUNICATION

FAMILY AND SOCIAL RELATIONS

STRESS AND TRAUMA

EDUCATION

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

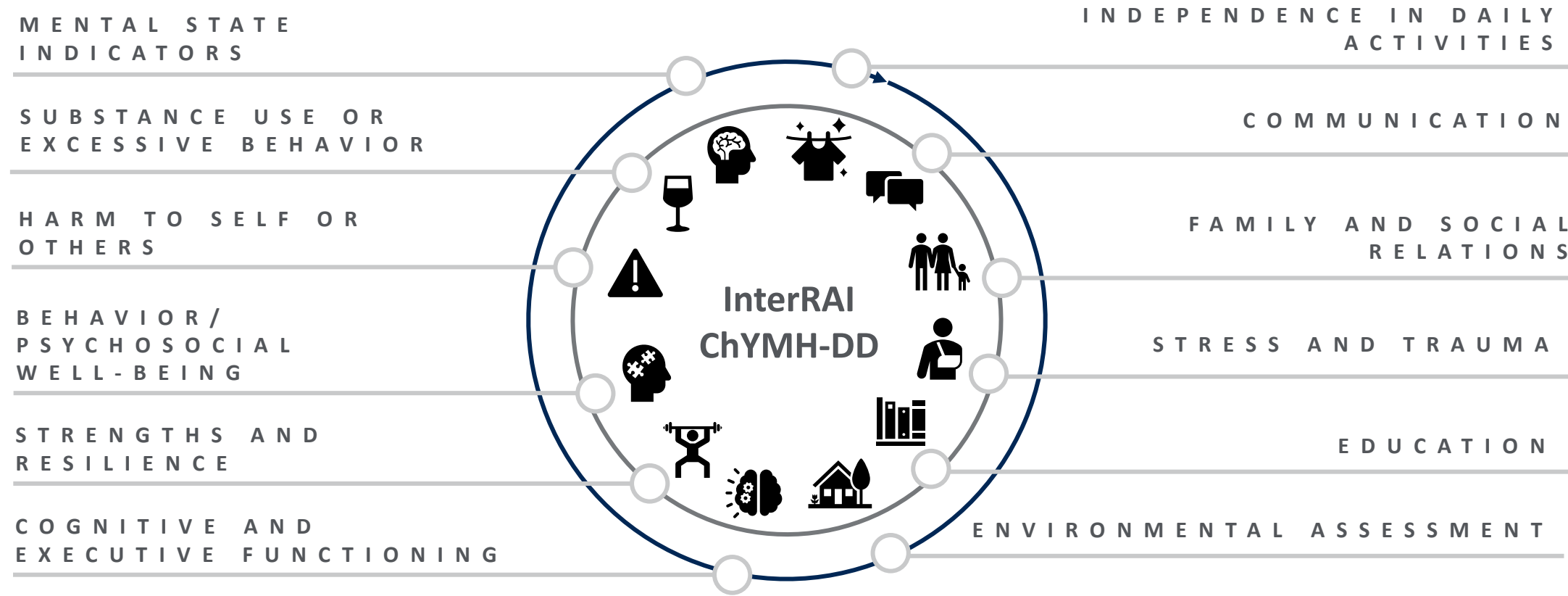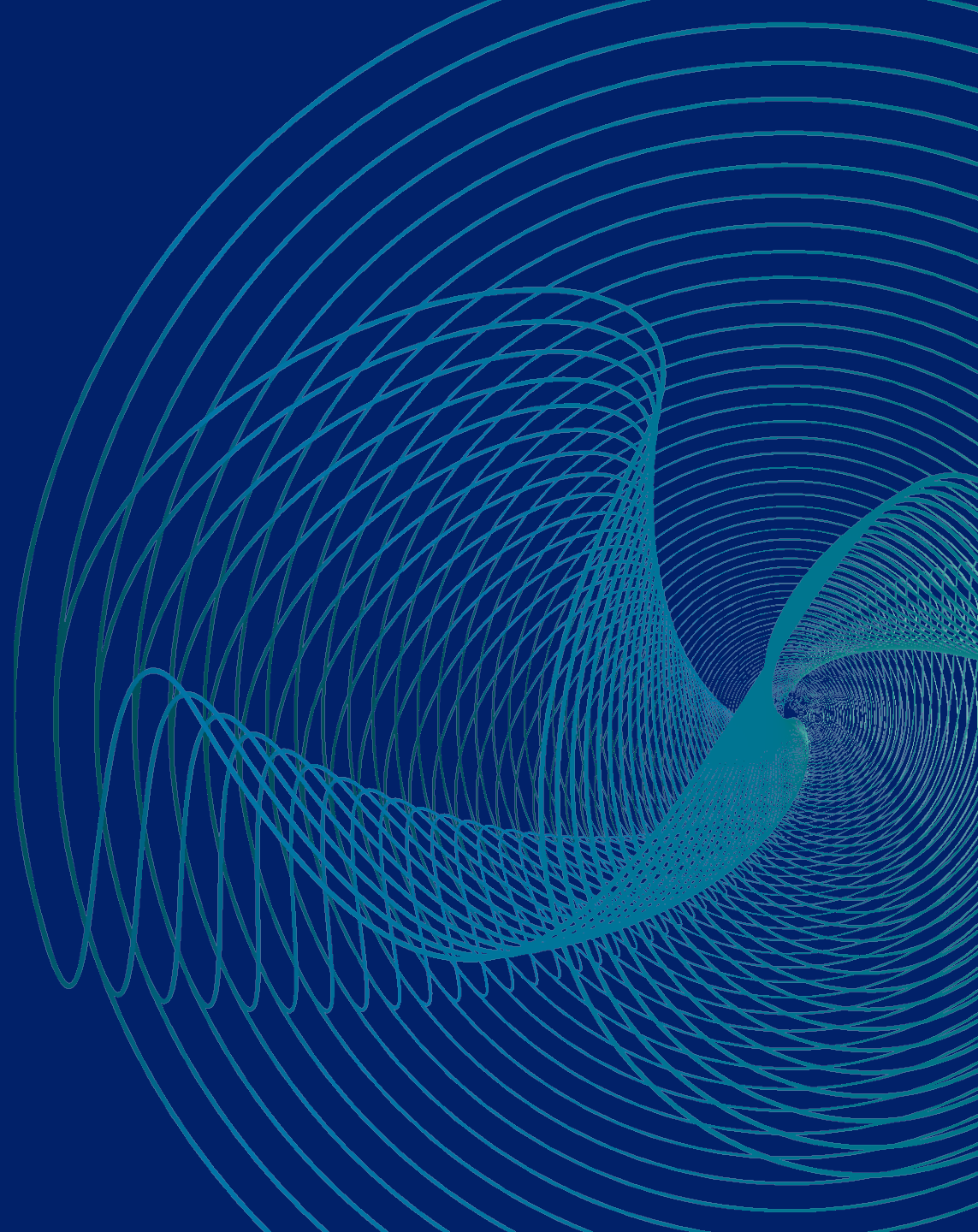*Additional questions related to identification, intake, and medical status are captured in alternate assessment sections.*

InterRAI-ID Applications

Resources available for Ohio to leverage for acuity tier determination and service allocation management

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> **interRAI instrument systems collect information once and use it for multiple purposes to support clients/patients, care professionals, managers, and administrators.**

OVERVIEW

DETAILS

COLLABORATIVE ACTION PLANS(CAPs)

Support **continuity of care planning** by providing **common protocols across settings**. CAPs are based on systematic reviews of international literature and large interRAI data holdings

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There are **7 CAPs** imbedded within the ID instrument:
1. Abuse by Others
2. Communication
3. Continence
4. Injurious Behavior
5. Meaningful Activities
6. Mental Illness
7. Social Relationships

STATUS AND OUTCOME MEASURES

Various **scales and indices imbedded within each interRAI instrument** used to evaluate an **individual's clinical status.**

Summary measures/scales for ID include:

- Cognitive Performance

- Activities of Daily Living

- Depression

- Aggressive Behavior

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Case-mix systems **classify people into groups** that are homogeneous in their resource use. They also provide **meaningful clinical descriptions of individuals in a group.** Can be applied to **reimbursement**, for comparing **populations across settings**, and for **staffing**.

Adults:
- The Case-Mix Groups for Developmental Disability (CMGDD)

Children and Youth:
- Resource Intensity for Child and Youth Algorithm (RIChY); Child and Youth Resource Intensity Algorithm (ChYRI)

Applications | interRAI

InterRAI Tool and DODD Future State

Anticipated Future State

The interRAI assessment tool will inform service bands, acuity tiers (and acuity-based rates), and approaches to service allocation management. There are outstanding decisions that will need to be confirmed as we define the implementation approach. goals

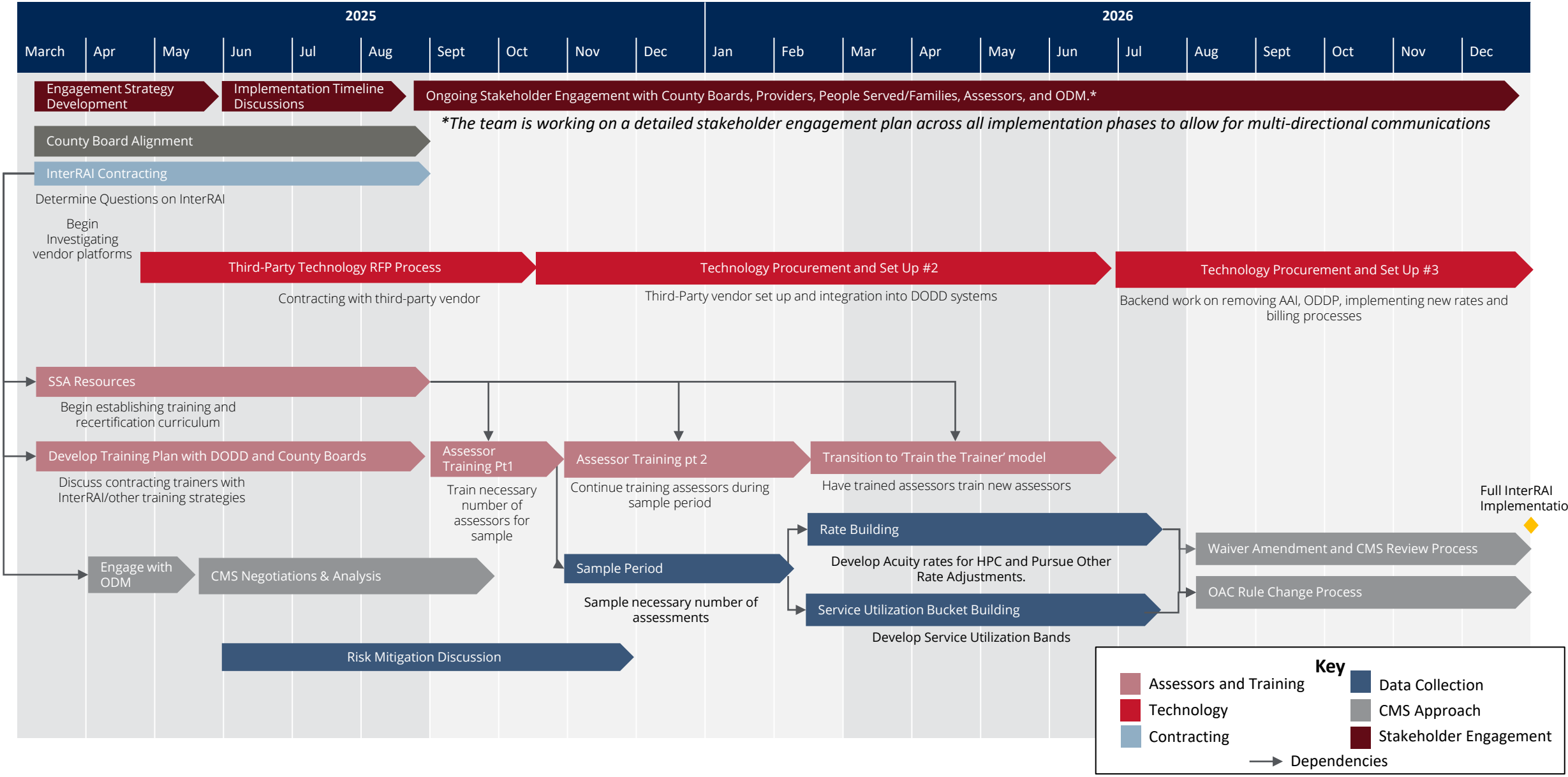|	**Purpose**	**Methodology**
Acuity Tiers	Reimburse providers based on the complexity / intensity of individual's needs	+ Develop **assessment-informed acuity-tiers** to replace the current 9 ODDP Budget Levels
Service Bands	Provide estimated levels of need for individuals based on assessment results to better inform service planning	+ Leverage interRAI outputs & applications to **establish service bands** for IO waiver individuals + Service bands will be measured in **hours over a selected period of time** (e.g. weeks) + Outputs leveraged from interRAI can include **raw data, status and outcome measures, or case-mix algorithms**
Service Allocation Management	Structure management of individual options waiver costs using information gleaned from assessment results	+ Transition from a target dollar amount budget to a **service-based budget approach** + Establish **prior authorization** process for individuals a certain percentage outside of their assigned range as well as top spenders + **Retroactive reviews** across acuity tiers

Implementation
Plan

InterRAI Implementation Timeline

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Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Timeline below is based on a January 2027 implementation

2025										2026										
March	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

Engagement Strategy Development

Implementation Timeline Discussions

Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement with County Boards, Providers, People Served/Families, Assessors, and ODM.*

The team is working on a detailed stakeholder engagement plan across all implementation phases to allow for multi-directional communications

County Board Alignment

InterRAI Contracting

Determine Questions on InterRAI

Begin Investigating vendor platforms

Third-Party Technology RFP Process

Contracting with third-party vendor

Technology Procurement and Set Up #2

Third-Party vendor set up and integration into DODD systems

Technology Procurement and Set Up #3

Backend work on removing AAI, ODDP, implementing new rates and billing processes

SSA Resources

Begin establishing training and recertification curriculum

Develop Training Plan with DODD and County Boards

Discuss contracting trainers with InterRAI/other training strategies

Assessor Training Pt1

Train necessary number of assessors for sample

Assessor Training pt 2

Continue training assessors during sample period

Transition to 'Train the Trainer' model

Have trained assessors train new assessors

Full InterRAI Implementation

Engage with ODM

CMS Negotiations & Analysis

Sample Period

Sample necessary number of assessments

Rate Building

Develop Acuity rates for HPC and Pursue Other Rate Adjustments.

Service Utilization Bucket Building

Develop Service Utilization Bands

Waiver Amendment and CMS Review Process

OAC Rule Change Process

Risk Mitigation Discussion

Key

- Assessors and Training
- Technology
- Contracting
- Data Collection
- CMS Approach
- Stakeholder Engagement
- → Dependencies

Assumptions of Implementation

Determine components of interRAI implementation that may impact timeline and amount of time needed for different components

ASSUMPTIONS

Technology set up **complete** for **sample data collection**

Standardized interRAI assessment with no supplemental questions for initial launch

Limited time for stakeholder **back and forth** on initial decisions and rate building process

Simplified **risk mitigation strategies** for providers and an **effective rate building process**

Acuity-based rates will begin with **HPC as a priority service** and then potentially expand to Shared Living, Residential Respite, and other related services.
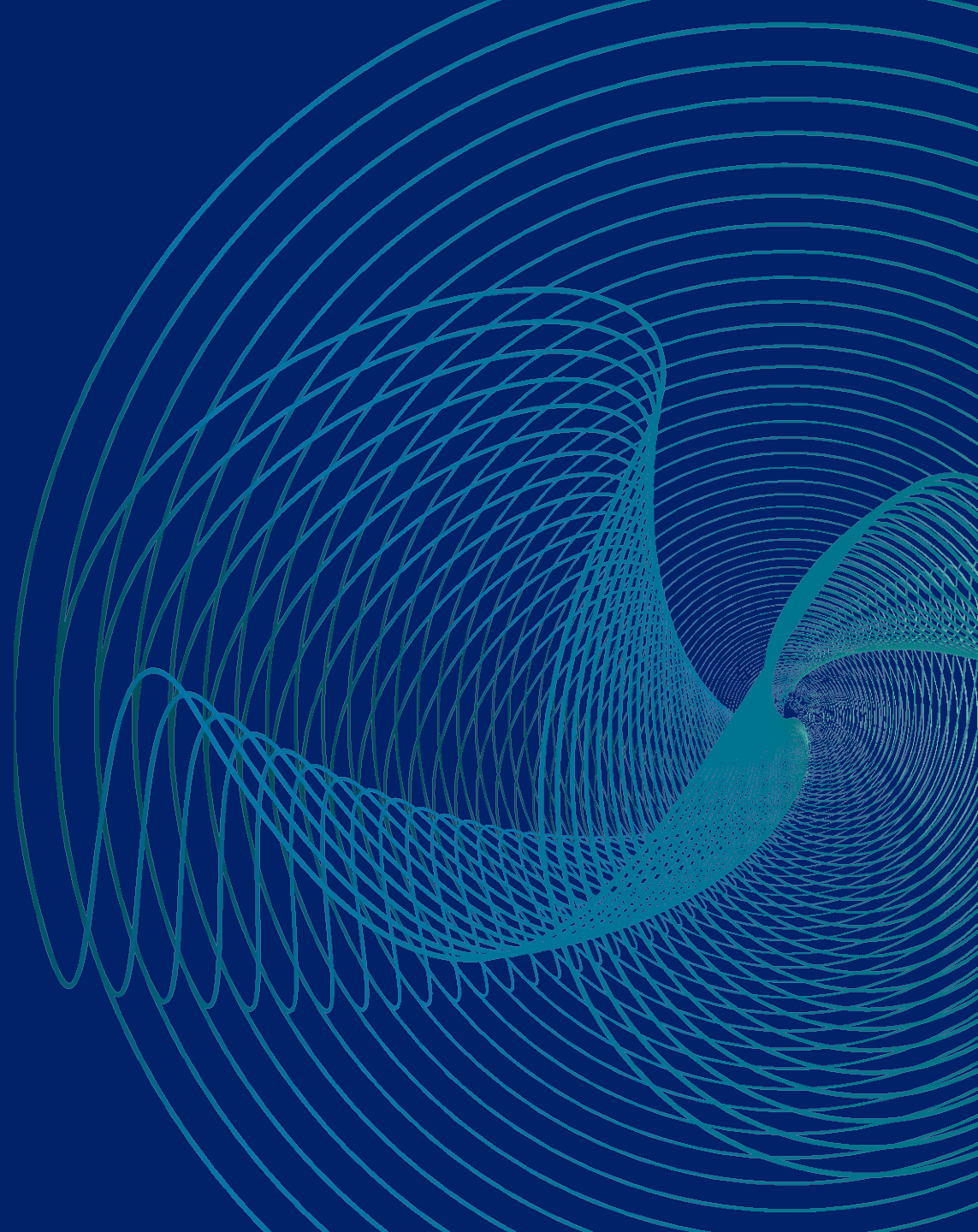
Timely **Training of Assessors** once decision is made for who assessors will be.

Population assessed prior to go-live is not the complete population of waiver individuals.

Depending on go-live date selected, certain risks may be alleviated by allowing more time for implementation.

Next Steps

Next Steps

Discuss DODD next steps and future conversations

DODD is working through contracting logistics with interRAI.

DODD will discuss implementation plan for assessments and acuity rates with stakeholders in the coming weeks.

Next Meeting: TBD