



Addressing the Youth Mental Health Crisis: Best Practices in Assessment

Presented by: Kathleen Woodward, Ed.S., NCSP, and Chris Huzinec

Date and time: Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 2:00 pm ET

Delivery method: Live webinar

Instructional level: Intermediate

Sponsored by: NCS Pearson, Inc.

Course Description

School professionals are on the front line of addressing the current mental health crisis among children and adolescents. Mental health issues need to be better identified in school settings so struggling students can get needed supports. This webinar will demonstrate the full process and best practices of identifying and addressing emotional, behavioral, and mental health concerns through screening, broadband assessment, narrow-band assessment, intervention, and progress monitoring. It will also illustrate how school psychologists and other school-based mental health professionals can use evaluation results and progress monitoring to collect data to improve student outcomes.

Learner Outcomes

After completing this activity, participants will be able to:

1. Implement improved identification and classification of students exhibiting social, emotional, and behavioral related mental health issues, emotional disturbance, and/or social maladjustment using expanded and comprehensive assessment and data collection procedures
2. Select and employ the appropriate narrow-band assessments to differentiate between anxiety, depression, and other emotional and behavioral challenges
3. Demonstrate how progress monitoring is used with students served in special education, as well as to support emotional and behavioral needs of students who receive interventions at all tiers within an MTSS framework

Time-Ordered Agenda

10 minutes	Current status of youth mental health in the U.S.
20 minutes	Best practices for identification and differentiation of mental health concerns
25 minutes	Utilizing assessment data for intervention and progress monitoring
5 minutes	Q&A



About the Presenters

Kathleen Woodward, Ed.S., NCSP, is a nationally certified school psychologist and a senior assessment consultant with Pearson Clinical Assessment. She has served as a consultant to school districts, hospitals, universities, and correctional institutions throughout the U.S. and Canada since 2007 and has presented well over 100 workshops for professional organizations. Her areas of expertise include psychological and psychoeducational assessment of cognitive ability, memory, academic achievement, and social-emotional/behavioral disorders.

Chris Huzinec is an educational researcher, evaluator, and consultant with over 30 years of practical experience in public education. He is currently a Senior Educational Consultant for Pearson Clinical Assessment. Previously, he was the Director of Research for Psychological Software Solutions. Additionally, he was employed by the Houston ISD's Department of Research and Accountability for 15 years. He has conducted professional development sessions in the areas of student behavior, equity, SEL, ADHD, and special education and is a regular presenter at national conferences.

Disclosure

Financial: Kathleen Woodward and Chris Huzinec are both employed by Pearson Clinical Assessment.

Nonfinancial disclosure: There are no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

The Pearson Assessment Division, the sponsor of this webinar, develops and distributes assessments and intervention tools for speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, and psychologists. This offering will include information that pertains to the effective and appropriate use and interpretation of the following assessments published by Pearson: Behavior Assessment System for Children (3rd ed.; BASC-3), Beck Youth Inventories (2nd ed.; BYI-2), Brown Executive Function/Attention Scales (Brown EF/A Scales), and Conners (4th ed; published by Multi-Health Systems and distributed by Pearson). No other products will be addressed in this webinar.

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