

### The 2013 Patient Characteristics Survey (PCS) Changes

Question	Change	Rationale
Q5. Gender	Expand outcomes to include Transgender Man and Transgender Woman.	Requested by Consumer Affairs and Bureau of Cultural Competence because of higher rates of suicide and substance abuse. Has been added to MHARS.
Q6. Add Sexual Orientation	Outcomes of straight or heterosexual; lesbian, gay, or homosexual; bisexual; other; unknown.	
Q8. Current Living Situation	Remove "current" from the name because it is unnecessary.	General guidance for PCS is to report current information.
Q16. Current Employment		
Q21. Current Disabilities/Disorders		
Q9. Living Situation	Rather than ask them to report "current location," direct <b>inpatient programs</b> to report living situation, household composition, county and zip code of residence <b>prior to admission</b> .	To provide a more accurate profile of services by living situation and county of residence for the planning tables in the PCS portal and for consistency between household composition and living situation.
Q10. Household Composition		
Q13. County of Residence		
Q14. Zip Code of Residence		
Q11. Parental Status	Add the option, "Expectant parent"	SAMHSA now requests a report of the number of expectant women in the Block Grant.
Q15. Primary Language	Drop "Greek," "German" and "Japanese." Change "Creole" to "French/Haitian Creole" and "Spanish to Spanish and Spanish Creole." Add "Tagalog," "African Languages," "Other Asian Languages (including Japanese)," "Other Indo-European Languages (including Greek, German)" and "Portuguese and Portuguese Creole." Languages reordered.	Rationale based on latest US Census counts for NY (greater than 75,000 persons speaking the language at home) or high (over 90) number of persons speaking the language reported in the previous PCS (Eg., Vietnamese, Hebrew).
Q19. Add School question	"Client has attended school, home tutoring or received educational instruction at any time in the past three months (Y/N/U)."	Required for reports to SAMHSA. Also, this information will help to identify education status for adolescents and young adults.

## The 2013 Patient Characteristics Survey (PCS) Changes

Question	Change	Rationale
Q20. Education Level	Add outcomes for "Pre-Kindergarten" and "Kindergarten."	Required for reports to SAMHSA. Also, early childhood education is important for school success.
Q22. Special Education Classification	Show all 13 Committee on Special Education (CSE) classifications listed with the NY Dept. of Education; i.e., replace "sensory impairment" with "speech and language impairment," add "deafness," "deaf-blindness," "hearing impairment," "visual impairment," replace "physical disability" with "orthopedic impairment," add "traumatic brain injury," "intellectual disability" and "other health impairment." Question is "select one" because "multiple disabilities" is a classification.	Division for Children and Families has been working closely with NYSED on children with CSE status and this will help to track public MH services to that population.
Q23. Disability or Disorder	Split "physical disability" into "mobility impairment" and "hearing or visual impairment." In guidelines, be clear that these should be reported only if accommodation is required.	Allow need assessment for accommodation.  Change name from "Disabilities/Disorders" to be clear that users should answer "yes" for disorders that are present, even if disability is not indicated.
Q24. Chronic Medical Condition	Remove "history of active tuberculosis" from pulmonary condition.	This item is intended to measure current conditions. A "history of" does not, in itself, denote a current condition.
Q28. SMI/SED	Change "Severe and Persistent" Mental Illness (SPMI) to "Serious" Mental Illness (SMI).	In NY and nationally, target population has evolved to SMI. SAMHSA provides prevalence estimates and requests service utilization for SMI rather than SPMI.
Q30. Add "Diagnostic System" question	Ask Diagnostic System used: "DSMIV or ICD9" or "DSMV or ICD10" and present list of behavioral health diagnostic codes according to the selection.	DSM V will be operational in May, 2013. Though providers will not be required to bill using ICD10

### The 2013 Patient Characteristics Survey (PCS) Changes

Question	Change	Rationale
		and DSM V till 2014, some may convert before the PCS.
Q31. Primary Diagnosis	Change name from Principal Diagnosis to Primary Diagnosis	Maintain consistent terminology in form and guidelines.