

How to Use the Road Map for Assistive Technology Provision and Home Adaptation

The road map is designed to help physical rehabilitation professionals assess the needs and interests of people with disabilities in their homes, in order to provide home adaptations and assistive technologies that may improve the home dweller's safety and functional performance.

Components include: (1) a demographic intake form template; (2) SHINY - a guided interview questionnaire; (3) HARD - a checklist for home review; (4) GASH – a Goal Attainment Scale-based intervention planning document; (5) ATHA-CARD – an assessment-based list of suggestions for professional referral/home adaptation/AT provision; (6) SHAPI – an AT/home adaptation recommendation and justification form; (7) SHUSS-NY – a user satisfaction survey; and (8) a resource list.

Ideally, the professional will utilize each of these tools in succession (see flow chart), while conducting a home adaptation and assistive technology intervention, in order to comprehensively support the home dweller and keep track of each step of the process.

Demographic Intake Form

A generic intake form recording identifying information, disability status, supports in place, and home adaptation/AT needs.

SHINY Assessment

All assistive technology models highlight the importance of the home dweller's preferences and interests in making decisions about recommended supports. (In some cases, it can be helpful for a caregiver to share in discussions about these issues.) The Smart Home Interview – New York (SHINY) is designed to serve as a guide and record for this discussion.

HARD Assessment

Whenever possible, touring the home and asking the home dweller to demonstrate everyday tasks can assist the professional in better understanding safety and functional performance needs. Demonstrations can also serve as reminders to the home dweller about concerns they may have overlooked during the SHINY needs and interests interview. The Home Assessment Review & Demonstration (HARD) can guide this process.

ATHA-CARD Referrals and Suggestions Table

Upon completion of the SHINY and HARD assessments, the professional and the home dweller (and caregiver, if available) should discuss findings in order to collaboratively develop recommendations and justifications for home adaptations and assistive technologies that may

support safety and functional performance in the home. The ATHA-CARD Table may help in this discussion.

GASH Assessment

Goal attainment scaling is a reliable and valid method for setting and tracking achievement of functional goals. This method can demonstrate individual functional improvements based on the assistive technology intervention, and its findings may be combined across participants in a research study following single subject research methodology. The Goal Attainment Scale for the Home (GASH) is designed to set and track outcomes for up to four prioritized functional goals. See the GASH form and the GASH-instructions form for guidance.

SHAPI form

The Smart Home Acquisition and Provision Instrument (SHAPI) may be used to list recommended supports, as agreed upon by all parties. This form records dates of assessment and implementation of supports; names of involved parties; device make, model number, and vendor; purpose and justification for each device; and any related notes. SHAPI may also serve as a record of AT provision across the intervention.

(The Purpose/Justification box of SHAPI should briefly explain how this device will help overcome a functional obstacle or challenge in the home or improve safety for this individual. Goals set using the GASH instrument may be included here.)

(The second page of SHAPI may be copied as many times as necessary to record all devices provided.)

SHUSS-NY form

The Smart Home User Satisfaction Survey – New York (SHUSS-NY) is designed as an outcome measure that allows the user to provide a numerical rating of their satisfaction with the intervention. As such, it should be conducted once all home adaptation/assistive technology is in place, and the user has been successfully trained in its use.

The first section of the SHUSS asks users to rate nine elements of satisfaction with the intervention on a 1-5 Likert Scale. A second section lists nine elements of the intervention and asks the user to identify the three considered most important to them. The third section is a score sheet for averaging ratings and listing the three items considered most important by the user.

If conducted together, the GASH and SHUSS-NY instruments can provide both objective and subjective measures of the intervention's success, for outcomes reporting and research purposes.

Elements of the Road Map and Order of Introduction

