- 'THE NORTHERN IRELAND SINGLE ASSESSMENT TOOL(NISAT) A HOLISTIC AND PERSON-CENTRED APPORACH TO NEEDS ASSESSMENTS' -	
Organisation / Country:	Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Board, United Kingdom
Website:	Here
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Summary:[1]	The Northern Ireland Single Assessment Tool (NISAT) is designed to capture information required for holistic, person-centred assessment of an older person. NISAT was developed to address the assessment process as highlighted in the National Service Framework for Older People. The NISAT consists of three main parts: - the contact screening; - the core NISAT; - and the complex NISAT. The core assessment consists of eight domains covering all areas of an older person's life – mental health; communication and sensory functioning; personal care and daily tasks; mobility and movement; awareness and decision making; accommodation and living arrangements; employment, finance and leisure; and physical health and medication. The SAT assessment approaches focuses on the older person's abilities and strengths, rather than disabilities. The standardised approach helps the assessor focus on the older person as the 'expert' on his/her own life, and it seeks to capture the older person's goals and aspirations for the future. Additionally, the tool records the perspective of others involved in the older person's care. **Advantages of NISAT** It is capable of assessing all levels of health and social care needs of an individual user. This approach is able to identify unmet needs which can inform future service

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[1] The summary was composed using information from the relevant website of the Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Board.

	planning. The possibility to share data between professionals encourages collaborative working.
	Implementation in Northern Ireland
	NISAT has been implemented regionally across multidisciplinary teams (nurses, social workers, cooperating health professionals) in all five Health and Social Care Trusts in older people's services. 47% of Integrated Teams in Older Peoples' Services actively use NISAT regionally. The project now focusses on:
	• ensuring full integration with other regional systems (e.g., community information systems, electronic care records);
	• facilitating the transition from a stand-alone tool to the electronic assessment recording process and becoming an integral part of the technological software for delivering integrated care.
	The Single Assessment has made it easier to share data across sectors, for example by not only sharing information within and between Health and Social Care Trusts, but also with other stakeholders such as housing services and home care agencies.
	• Assess the needs of older people and adults generally in areas such as physical and sensory disability, dementia, and palliative care
	• Support decisions on nursing or residential home care, to plan home care services for clients with complex needs, and to enable a person to continue living at home with appropriate home care support
Issues:	• Data protection regulation may impose obstacles to the implementation of the practice.
	• Training professionals from different sectors to share information continues to be challenging.

Resources:	• Service users and carers were heavily involved in the development of the tool. This ensured that the focus was on service user and carer needs with direct input from health and social care professionals. The principle of co-production could be the basis of the tools further development. • 5.1 million GBP have been committed to the introduction and support of NISAT over a fiveyear period.
Objectives:	• Assess health and social care needs of older people and adults generally in areas such as

	physical and sensory disability, dementia and palliative care • Supporting staff in the use of the tool and ultimately delivering a single assessment process • Assessing needs comprehensively through the use of a multi-disciplinary process and using a person-centred approach • Improving users' service experience • Fostering integrated and collaborative working between professionals
Outcomes:	• Enabling a common approach to single assessment in older people services at regional level • Ensuring the appropriate and secure sharing of NISAT assessments both within and across Health and Social Care Trusts • Supporting a managed and controlled approach to introducing mobile technology in community services • Delivering more efficient administrative support for the assessment process.
Evaluation:	• NISAT was externally evaluated.
Resources:	NISAT material NISAT evaluation