

NYC Standardized Vulnerability Assessment Criteria Fact Sheet

The NYC Standardized Vulnerability Assessment (SVA) will be conducted on all approved HRA Supportive Housing Application Referrals. This assessment takes into consideration the applicant’s living situation (current and history), challenges impacting their independence, and determines the level of vulnerability based on the criteria below. The SVA uses a categorical system of **High**, **Medium**, and **Low Vulnerability**. The SVA categories are based on an applicant’s Medicaid service utilization within the past year **OR** multi-system contacts and the number of functional impairments experienced within the last 2 years. The SVA determination defaults to the higher category of the two criteria - see below:

Category/Vulnerability	Medicaid Service Utilization within the past year	# of System Contact and # of Functional Impairments within 2 years
High	Top 5% of Medicaid Utilization	At least 3 System Contacts <u>and</u> 3 Functional Impairments
Medium	Between 55% and 95% of Medicaid Utilization	At least 2 System Contacts <u>and</u> 2 Functional Impairments
Low	Below 55% of Medicaid Utilization	At least 1 System Contact <u>and</u> 1 Functional Impairment or NONE

A system contact is defined as a discrete episode of: hospital admission, emergency room visit (3 or more visits = 1 contact), homelessness, incarceration, foster care placement, domestic violence service connection, runaway homeless youth system, APS case management, or Substance Use treatment (inpatient rehabilitation or detoxification). Multiple episodes within the same system will count as one system contact for the person or head of household (i.e. multiple hospital/ ER’s within the 2 year period). Furthermore, the high service need category may be determined through the Medicaid utilization criteria. System contacts will be verified through information received from homeless, hospital, substance use databases, and current and/or prior supportive housing applications. See the chart below for definitions of system contacts:

Systems	Types of Contacts
Homeless	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Homeless Services (shelter, safe haven, drop-in) • Department of Housing Preservation and Development (shelter) • Veteran’s Administration (transitional housing and safe haven) • HIV/AIDS Services Administration (Emergency Placement Unit)
Domestic Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connection with domestic violence services • HRA contracted domestic violence shelter
Substance Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services licensed inpatient rehabilitation or detoxification program
Foster Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration for Children’s Services foster care placement
Correctional Institution/Legal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Correction/Department of Corrections and Community Services (jail, prison, juvenile justice and court mandated treatment)
Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical and behavioral health treatment (inpatient and emergency room visit)
Adult Protective Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connected to Adult Protective Services
Department of Youth and Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runaway Homeless Youth (shelter, drop-in center, or street outreach)

A case review may be initiated with the PACT reviewer to provide additional information that can be considered for the vulnerability assessment criteria. The contact information is listed on the SVA summary section of the application.