

Evaluation Method: Observation

Overview

Staff or volunteers observe clients taking part in activities and record information to evidence outcomes.

What's required

Form to record observations. Time needed depends on the activity.

Process

- Decide on the areas/behaviours to be observed and develop framework (use indicators).
- Decide how you will assess these (points scale, tick boxes, narrative).
- Make sure observers are trained to ensure fairness of observation.
- Decide if the observer is also taking part in the activity or not and if you going to take photos/video.
- Do 2-3 sessions with observation before you use it as an evidence collection tool – reduces the behaviour alteration effect of the observer on the client.

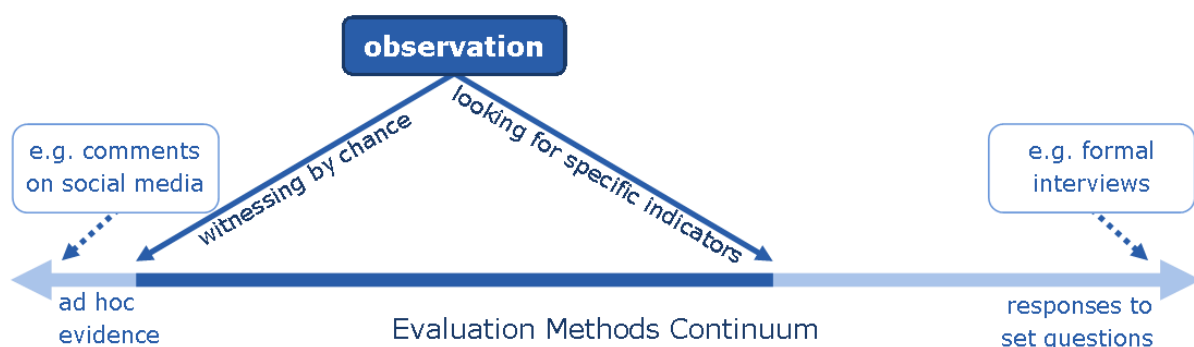


Capturing evidence

You need to decide if you need a special observation schedule or if observations will be added to existing forms or records.

Useful for

- Provides many different types of information.
- Good for showing interaction between groups/individuals.
- Can be carried out on many different sites by different individuals.
- Can use professional expertise of staff.
- Allows evaluation over time rather than snapshot.





Observation Sheet for CIRCA

Name of service user: _____

Date: _____

Outcome: Service users with dementia have increased communication skills

<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Level of Interaction</i>			
	Not much	Some	Fair amount	Very much
Talking				
Smiling and laughing				
Concentrating				
Calm and relaxed				
Emotional response				

Any other comments:

Guidance: Complete the table (above) with crosses in the heading that seems to apply to each indicator. Make any other notes about the interaction in the comments section (left).