

The Defensible Assessment Documentation Standard

Version 1.0 - Twenty questions to ask any vendor - psychassist.ai/defensible-ai-psychological-assessment-standard/

Each question below has a right answer and a wrong answer, and most can be settled by a demonstration rather than a statement. Ask for the demonstration. Tick the box only when you have seen it, not when you have been told it.

PROVENANCE

1. Show me a claim in a generated report and trace it to its source - can you do that in the interface, or does it require a support ticket? ☐
2. When the system produces a score in narrative text, is that score read from the entered protocol data, or generated as text? Show me where the value is stored. ☐
3. If I upload a school record and the report references it, does the citation point to the specific document and page, or only to the case file as a whole? ☐

DISCONFIRMATION

4. Can the system list, on demand, the evidence in this case that argues against the diagnosis I have selected? ☐
5. Where in the generated draft does divergent evidence appear - is it integrated into the interpretation, or appended where it can be skipped? ☐
6. If parent and teacher ratings disagree, does the draft state the disagreement, or does it report the elevated informant only? ☐

APPROVAL

7. Can any machine-generated sentence reach a signed report without a clinician explicitly accepting it? Demonstrate that it cannot. ☐
8. Show me the approval record for one paragraph: who approved it, when, and what the text said at that moment. ☐
9. If a supervisee drafts and a supervisor signs, are those two distinct logged events with distinct roles? ☐

VOICE

10. How does the system learn my voice - from my own prior reports, or from a template I select from a list? ☐
11. Generate the same case for two clinicians in my practice with different styles. Are the outputs distinguishable? ☐
12. Can I encode my own rules - how I introduce a diagnosis, how I handle discrepancies, how I frame recommendations - or only choose from yours? ☐

AUDITABILITY

13. Export the complete audit trail for one case, right now, in this call, in a format I can open. ☐
14. Which events are logged? Name them. Is document deletion among them? ☐
15. How long is audit data retained, and does that period meet the record-retention requirement in my jurisdiction? ☐

DISCLOSURE

16. Does the generated report contain a statement of AI assistance in the document itself? ☐
17. Can I edit the wording of that disclosure to match my consent form and my jurisdiction's guidance? ☐
18. Is the disclosure on by default, or is it something I have to remember to enable for each report? ☐

GENERAL

19. Is my clinical data used to train models that serve other customers? Show me the clause, not the summary. ☐
20. If I leave, what do I take with me - the reports as PDFs, or the structured case data and audit trail as well? ☐

The six requirements

The questions on the previous pages test these. Reproduced here so the checklist stands alone.

01 Provenance

Every clinical claim must resolve to an identifiable source: a measure, a document, a session note, or a recorded observation.

What this rules out: A generated narrative paragraph that reads plausibly but contains a score, a date, or a history detail that appears nowhere in the case file.

How to test it: Open a finished report, pick three sentences at random from the Interpretation section, and trace each one to its origin. If any of the three requires you to remember, infer, or ask a colleague, the report has not met the requirement.

02 Disconfirmation

A diagnostic conclusion is defensible only when the evidence that diverges from it has been surfaced and considered, not only the evidence that supports it.

What this rules out: An Interpretation section in which every cited finding points the same direction, in a case where the raw data did not.

How to test it: Take a completed evaluation and ask the system to list the evidence in the file that argues against your primary diagnosis. If it cannot produce that list, or produces a list you already knew was incomplete, the requirement is not met.

03 Approval

No machine-generated content enters a clinical record without an explicit, logged act of clinician approval.

What this rules out: Autosave-to-final. Bulk 'accept all' with no record of what was accepted. Any workflow in which content reaches a signed document without passing through a human decision.

How to test it: Ask the vendor to show you the approval event for a specific paragraph in a specific report: who approved it, at what time, and what the content was at the moment of approval.

04 Voice

The report must read in the clinician's own voice and follow their own standards, because they are the person who signs it.

What this rules out: A house style applied to every clinician on the platform. Generated text that requires line-by-line rewriting before the clinician is willing to sign it.

How to test it: Have two clinicians in the same practice, with genuinely different writing styles, generate a report from the same case data. If the two outputs are difficult to tell apart, the requirement is not met.

05 Auditability

Every action carries a timestamp, an actor and a role, exportable on demand.

What this rules out: Logs visible only to the vendor. Audit data that requires a support ticket to obtain. Retention windows shorter than the record-retention obligation in the clinician's jurisdiction, which for anyone practising across state lines under PSYPACT means the longest of several.

How to test it: Export the full audit trail for one completed case, yourself, from the interface, in a format you can open. Time how long it takes. If the answer involves contacting anyone, the requirement is not met.

06 Disclosure

The use of AI in preparing documentation is stated in the record itself, not buried in a licence agreement.

What this rules out: AI use disclosed only in the end-user licence agreement, the privacy policy, or the vendor's marketing site. Reports that are silent on how they were produced.

How to test it: Read the last report you signed. If a parent could not determine from the document itself whether machine assistance was used, the requirement is not met.