



Screening, Assessment, & Eligibility

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Overview

Screening vs. Assessment

Victimization &
Perpetration

Eligibility

Risk/Needs Analysis

Risk Assessment Tools



Screening vs. Assessment

SCREENING

- Quick check to determine if something exists (e.g., high blood pressure)
- Questions routinely asked to determine a problem
- Goal is to identify problem
- Conducted by anyone with some knowledge
- Need protocols for action for positive screen



Screening vs. Assessment

ASSESSMENT



- A more in-depth, focused look at a problem
- Needed to establish a diagnosis
- Needs to be done by qualified people
- Guides intervention once the problem is confirmed

IPV Screening Tools

Victimization

- E-HITS (VHA)
- Comprehensive Assessment/VTC-Q (NIC/CCI)

Perpetration

- IPV Perpetration Screening Tool (BWJP Screening, Assessment, and Intervention Doc)
- Reverse E-HITS (VHA)
- Comprehensive Assessment/VTC-Q (NIC/CCI)

VTC Eligibility

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS

- Diagnosed SUD and/or MH condition?
- Treatable condition?
- Guilty or no contest plea?
- Probation eligible?
- Permission from the victim?

SPECIFIC DV CONDITIONS

- No previous DV charges/convictions/history?
- No felony DV charges?
- No strangulation or stalking?
- No firearms use?
- Permission from the victim?
- Nexus between DV and MH condition?

Sources for Military & Veteran DV/IPV History

Criminal history databases
(National Criminal Information
Center – NCIC; state databases)

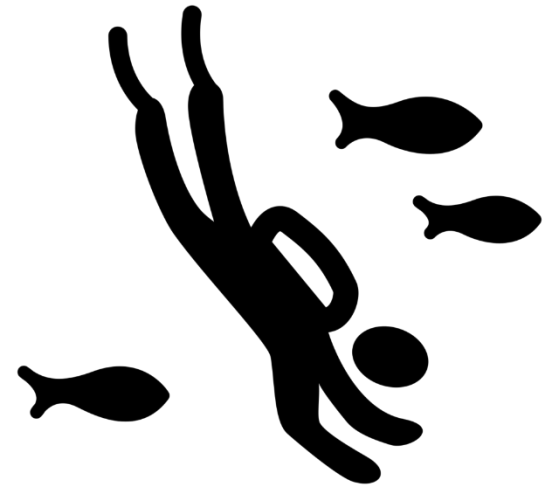
Protection order registries to
include NCIC's Protection Order
File (POF)

Service/Personnel Records

Military health records

Family Advocacy Program records

Incident Determination Committee
(IDC); Clinical Case Staff Meeting
(CCSM)



Deep Dive

RISK

NEED



Risk and Danger Assessment

An ongoing process, not a one-time event

Victims are best source of information

Some victims' perceptions vastly different than an advocate's or an assessment; may downplay risk and signs of danger

Some of most dangerous cases are where there has been no intervention;

But intervention can also compromise safety – unintended consequences

Benefits of Risk Assessment

Develop more realistic safety plans with victims

Educate criminal justice practitioners about risk

Provide a shared language about risk, lethality and recidivism

Help the criminal justice system identify appropriate bail, conditions of release, supervision strategies, and other types of court-ordered treatment

Assessing Risk of Future Abuse or Lethality

“It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future.” *Yogi Berra*

“One can never really know which batterer will attempt to kill a battered woman or her children”
Hart, 1988

Assessing for Risk Factors

What do we want the information for?

How do we integrate identification of risk factors into institutional practice?

How is it documented?

How do we ensure that the next intervenor has access to this information?

Will we use a tool?

Risk Screening & Assessment Tools

ODARA (Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment)

- Used by first responders; accompanies police report
- Predictive of recidivism and severity of assault
- 12 questions asked of victim
- Includes officer input on question of victim vulnerability

LAP (Lethality Assessment Protocol)

- Used by first responders at each incident
- Predictive of severe future assault
- 2-level screen
- Victims at high risk are connected by phone with local advocacy program

Risk Screening & Assessment Tools (Cont'd)

DVSI (Domestic Violence Screening Instrument)

- Commonly used by Pre-trial for bail recommendations; Probation for case management
- Predictive of recidivism
- Most questions rely on available information; A few are asked of victim

SARA (Spouse Abuse Risk Assessment)

- Commonly used by Probation to inform court, case management strategies, and level of supervision
- Predictive of recidivism
- Longer and includes clinical factors and victim questions

Risk Screening & Assessment Tools (Cont'd)

Danger Assessment (DA) - www.dangerassessment.org

- Used by victim advocates with survivors in safety planning
- Predictive of recidivism and lethality
- Information gathered solely from the victim
- Normed for heterosexual women; other versions developed for lesbian victims, immigrant women, and Native women
- Shorter versions for law enforcement and healthcare

Accounting for Risk and Danger Practice Checklists: Coordinating Risk Assessment in Domestic Violence Cases

www.bwjp.org/assets/documents/pdfs/accounting-for-risk-and-danger-practice-checklists.pdf

Accounting for Risk and Danger: Bail-Setting and Pre-Trial Conditions of Release



Accounting for Risk and Danger: Bail-Setting and Pre-Trial Conditions of Release	Note how this practice is implemented, or if there is a gap to be addressed.
<p>Victims are contacted prior to suspect's release from custody to assist in determining the context and severity of the case. Ask victim's opinion about pretrial release conditions that are most likely to address their safety needs. Ensure that victim is aware of community resources that offer protection and assistance.</p>	
<p>Victims are given adequate notification prior to the defendant's release from detention so they can take action to protect themselves, and are informed of the conditions of release.</p> <p>Notifications should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date and time of release • Specific conditions of release, providing a copy of the conditions upon request 	
<p>A DV-specific risk assessment and/or judicial checklist is used in setting bail and determining release conditions tailored to the particular dangers posed by the suspect to their victims, themselves, and the community.</p>	
<p>Risk factors related to the current offense and history are identified and documented for use in determining the nature of the threat the defendant presents to the victim and other persons.</p> <p>Possible risk indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of DV-specific risk assessment • Criminal history and current probation status • Access to firearms and their actual or threatened use • Current and past protection or harassment orders • Excessive alcohol or drug use and its impact on defendant's actions • Mental health concerns, impact on defendant's actions • History of combat deployment, indications of depression, PTSD/TBI 	

Conclusion

Screen for DV/IPV perpetration and victimization

Add DV-specific eligibility conditions

Gather information on prior history beyond traditional sources

“High Risk, High Need” analysis for substance abuse analysis is different for DV/IPV

Utilize risk assessment tools and integrate into eligibility, case processing, and supervision