

3 ASSESSING AND MANAGING RISK OF VIOLENCE: USING RISK PROFILING TOOLS AND WHERE TO FIND SPECIALIST HELP

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INTRODUCTION: The dividing line between challenging behaviour and offending behaviour can be thin and depend on a number of factors including: the seriousness of the act, the visibility of the act, the visibility of disability, the availability of advocacy, the availability of professional resources, and the values and attitudes of professionals who are involved. The majority of those with behaviour that challenges receive therapeutic input from community learning disability teams (CLDTs). However, when they are described as having 'offending' behaviour that needs 'forensic' input, there is concern that staff working within Community Learning Disability Teams do not have adequate expertise and that they need access to more specialist skills. Systematic risk assessments play a crucial role in determining who should be managed within specialist forensic settings for people with intellectual disability. **AIM:** a review of actuarial and structured professional judgement based risk assessment instruments for the risk assessment and management of violence towards others.

METHOD, RESULTS & DISCUSSION: Based on a structured review of literature, this poster will first describe the concept of static risk factors and the clinical utility of six actuarial risk assessment tools- VRAG, OGRS, H scale of HCR 20, RAPID, RRASOR and STATIC 99. It will then describe dynamic risk factors and the clinical utility of four structured clinical judgement based instruments- HCR 20, START, CuRV and ARMIDILO-S. The approach to risk assessment of violence in psychiatric or mental health settings is a cycle of: assessing risk, drawing up a risk management plan, communicating that plan to all concerned, ensuring that the plan is carried out, evaluating the outcome of the plan, undertaking a clinical review, and then reassessing the risk. The guidance that is provided in this poster will aid the practising clinician in selecting the appropriate tools for risk assessment and management.