

DVRISC Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Risk Assessments

Overview

IPV risk assessments are used in different capacities and settings to help inform decision making around victim safety and offender accountability. As all IPV risk assessments serve different functions, it's important to understand what each of them do and how they can be used. Below are some examples of common risk assessments that can be used in different settings.

On Call Scenes

Law enforcement can use risk assessments on scene when responding to IPV related calls, to assess the level of risk for the victim and connect them to services. Some examples include the APRAIS, B-SAFER, DA-LE, LAP, and ODARA.



Court

Risk assessments can be used throughout the criminal court process to inform decisions regarding protective orders, probation, parole, and supervision for the offender. Some examples of risk assessments used within the court are the DVRAG and DVSI-R. Information from some law enforcement administered risk assessments can also be used to inform pre-trial decisions such as bail. In civil court, some judges use bench guides with validated risk factors to inform decisions on civil protective orders.



Offender Focus/Treatment

During the post-disposition stage, risk assessments can be used to assess the person using harm's risk of re-assault. Some assessments that can be used for this purpose include the DVRNA and SARA-V3. They can also be used as part of abusive partner intervention programs, such as the BIRAM.



Community & Health



Risk assessments can be used by victim advocates and health professionals to assess lethality risk for the victim, to inform safety planning, and provision of services. An example includes the Danger Assessment.

Multidisciplinary Teams

Risk assessment models can be used by multidisciplinary teams where key partners and decision-makers share information on high risk cases and coordinate efforts to mitigate risk. Some examples include the IPVI model and DVHRT model, which also uses a risk assessment to inform decision making.



Online Assessments

Some risk assessments are available online and can be administered by the victim or by others supporting the victim, to illustrate their situation, their level of risk, and to inform safety planning. Examples include the MOSAIC and the SHARP, which is particularly focused on stalking.

