

FOUNDATIONAL BUILDING BLOCKS FOR INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV) RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLEMENTATION:

CONFIDENTIALITY

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

1

When designing an intimate partner violence (IPV) risk assessment protocol, make conscious choices about which agency will collect and receive the risk information. Pay attention to how that choice impacts survivor participation, survivor control over the information, and later use of the assessment information by different agencies.

2

There are no special confidentiality protections for IPV risk assessments. The level to which the risk assessment is protected from disclosure or routinely shared depends on the laws applicable to the agencies who collect and receive the information.

3

Confidentiality laws and disclosure requirements differ between professions and across state/territorial/tribal laws. Team members must understand the local rules applicable to their individual role.

4

Devoting time to understand each partner's mission, capacity, confidentiality rules, and disclosure requirements is essential work for every multidisciplinary high risk team.

5

Memorandums of Understandings (MOUs) within a high risk team cannot be used to change confidentiality or disclosure laws; MOUs should be used to describe how the team will work together within legal boundaries.