

Dangerousness/Violence Module (7)

Question to Consider for this Module: What are the issues that increase the individual's risk of violence towards others? *Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days.*

Historical Risk Factors (Rate over the lifetime of the Individual)

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| HISTORY OF PHYSICAL ABUSE - This item refers to the individual's history as a victim of physical abuse. | |
| <p>Questions to Consider</p> <p>→ Was the individual a victim of physical abuse?</p> | <p>Ratings & Definitions</p> <p>0 There is no evidence of a history of physical abuse.</p> <p>1 Individual has experienced corporal punishment.</p> <p>2 Individual has experienced physical abuse on one or more occasions from care giver or parent.</p> <p>3 Individual has experienced extreme physical abuse that has resulted in physical injuries that required medical care.</p> |
| HISTORY OF VIOLENCE – This item is used to rate the individual's history of violence towards others and cruelty to animals. | |
| <p>Questions to Consider</p> <p>→ Have the individual gotten into physical altercations with individuals?</p> <p>→ Has the individual ever exhibited behavior that is cruel to animals?</p> | <p>Ratings & Definitions</p> <p>0 No evidence of any history of violent behavior by the individual.</p> <p>1 Individual has engaged in mild forms of violent behavior including vandalism, minor destruction of property, physical fights in which no one was injured (e.g. shoving, wrestling).</p> <p>2 Individual has engaged in moderate forms of violent behavior including fights in which participants were injured. Cruelty to animals would be rated here unless it resulted in significant injury or death of the animal.</p> <p>3 Individual has initiated unprovoked violent behaviors on other people that resulted in injuries to these people. Cruelty to animals that resulted in significant injury or death to the animal would be rated here.</p> |
| WITNESS TO COMMUNITY VIOLENCE - This item rates the severity and frequency of incidents of violence the individual has witnessed in his/her community. | |
| <p>Questions to Consider</p> <p>→ Does the individual live in a neighborhood with frequent violence?</p> | <p>Ratings & Definitions</p> <p>0 There is no evidence that individual has witnessed violence in the community.</p> <p>1 Individual has witnessed fighting or other forms of violence in the community.</p> <p>2 Individual has witnessed the significant injury of others in his/her community).</p> <p>3 Individual has witnessed the death of another person in his/her community.</p> |

WITNESS TO FAMILY VIOLENCE -This item rates the severity and frequency of violence within the individual’s home or family.

Questions to Consider

- Is there frequent fighting in the individual’s family?
- Does the fighting ever become physical?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** There is no evidence that individual has witnessed family violence.
- 1** Individual has witnessed one episode of family violence or suspicion of exposure to family violence.
- 2** Individual has witnessed repeated episodes of family violence but no significant injuries (i.e. requiring emergency medical attention) have been witnessed.
- 3** Individual has witnessed repeated and severe episodes of family violence. Significant injuries have occurred as a direct result of the violence.

Emotional/Behavioral Risks
(Rate the highest level from the Past 30 days)

FRUSTRATION MANAGEMENT – This item rates how well the individual is able to tolerate and manage frustration.

Questions to Consider

- Does the individual get angry or frustrated easily?
- When the individual gets frustrated, what are his/her behaviors and reactions?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual appears to be able to manage frustration well. No evidence of problems of frustration management.
- 1** Individual has some mild problems with frustration. S/he may anger easily when frustrated; however, s/he is able to calm self down following an angry outburst.
- 2** Individual has problems managing frustration. His/her anger when frustrated is causing functioning problems in school, at home, or with peers.
- 3** Individual becomes explosive and dangerous to others when frustrated. S/he demonstrates little self-control in these situations and others must intervene to restore control.

HOSTILITY – This item rates the perception of others regarding the individual’s level of anger and hostility.

Questions to Consider

- Does the individual frequently appear angry and hostile?
- Does the individual seem hostile frequently or in inappropriate environments/situations?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual appears to not experience or express hostility except in situations where most people would become hostile.
- 1** Individual appears hostile but does not express it. Others experience individual as being angry.
- 2** Individual expresses hostility regularly.
- 3** Individual is almost always hostile either in expression or appearance. Others may experience individual as ‘full of rage’ or ‘seething.’

PARANOID THINKING - This item rates the existence/level of paranoid thinking experienced by the individual.

Questions to Consider

- Does the individual seem very suspicious?
- Is there any evidence of paranoid thinking/beliefs?
- Is the individual very guarded?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual does not appear to engage in any paranoid thinking.
- 1** Individual is suspicious of others but is able to test out these suspicions and adjust his/her thinking appropriately.
- 2** Individual believes that others are 'out to get' him/her. Individual has trouble accepting that these beliefs may not be accurate. Individual at times is suspicious and guarded but at other times can be open and friendly.
- 3** Individual believes that others plan to cause them harm. Individual is nearly always suspicious and guarded.

SECONDARY GAINS FROM ANGER - This item is used to rate the presence of anger to obtain additional benefits.

Questions to Consider

- What happens after the individual gets angry? Does s/he get anything in return?
- Does the individual typically get what s/he wants from expressing anger?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual either does not engage in angry behavior or, when s/he does become angry, does not appear to derive any benefits from this behavior.
- 1** Individual unintentionally has benefited from angry behavior; however, there is no evidence that individual intentionally uses angry behavior to achieve desired outcomes.
- 2** Individual sometimes uses angry behavior to achieve desired outcomes with parents, caregivers, teachers, or peers.
- 3** Individual routinely uses angry behavior to achieve desired outcomes with parents, caregivers, teachers or peers. Others in individual's life appear intimidated.

VIOLENT THINKING – This item rates the level of violence and aggression in the individual's thinking.

Questions to Consider

- Does the individual report having violent thoughts?
- Does s/he verbalize any violent thoughts either specifically or by using violence themes?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** There is no evidence that individual engages in violent thinking.
- 1** Individual has some occasional or minor thoughts about violence.
- 2** Individual has violent ideation. Language is often characterized as having violent themes and problem solving often refers to violent outcomes.
- 3** Individual has specific homicidal ideation or appears obsessed with thoughts about violence. For example, an individual who spontaneously and frequently draws only violent images may be rated here.

Resiliency Factors

(Rate the highest level from the past 30 days)

AWARE OF VIOLENCE POTENTIAL – This item rates the individual’s insight into his/her risk of violence.

Questions to Consider

- Is the individual aware of the risks and his/her potential to be violent?
- Is the individual concerned about these risks?
- Can the individual predict when/where/for what reason s/he will get angry and/or possibly become violent?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual is completely aware of his/her level of risk of violence. Individual knows and understands risk factors. Individual accepts responsibility for past and future behaviors. Individual is able to anticipate future challenging circumstances. An individual with no violence potential would be rated here.
- 1** Individual is generally aware of his/her potential for violence. Individual is knowledgeable about his/her risk factors and is generally able to take responsibility. Individual may be unable to anticipate future circumstances that may challenge him/her.
- 2** Individual has some awareness of his/her potential for violence. Individual may have tendency to blame others but is able to accept some responsibility for his/her actions.
- 3** Individual has no awareness of his/her potential for violence. Individual may deny past violent acts or explain them in terms of justice or as deserved by the victim.

RESPONSE TO CONSEQUENCES – This item rates the individual’s reaction when s/he gets consequences for violence or aggression.

Questions to Consider

- How does the individual react to consequences given for violent or aggressive behavior?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual is clearly and predictably responsive to identified consequences. Individual is regularly able to anticipate consequences and adjust behavior.
- 1** Individual is generally responsive to identified consequences; however, not all appropriate consequences have been identified or s/he may sometimes fail to anticipate consequences.
- 2** Individual responds to consequences on some occasions but sometimes does not appear to care about consequences for his/her violent behavior.
- 3** Individual is unresponsive to consequences for his/her violent behavior.

COMMITMENT TO SELF CONTROL – This item rates the individual’s willingness and commitment to controlling aggressive and/or violent behaviors.

Questions to Consider

- Does the individual want to change his/her behaviors?
- Is the individual committed to such change?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual fully committed to controlling his/her violent behavior.
- 1** Individual is generally committed to control his/her violent behavior; however, individual may continue to struggle with control in some challenging circumstances.
- 2** Individual ambivalent about controlling his/her violent behavior.
- 3** Individual not interested in controlling his/her violent behavior at this time.

TREATMENT INVOLVEMENT – This item rates how involved the individual and family are in treatment.

Questions to Consider

- Is the individual an active participant in treatment?
- Is the family involved in and supportive of treatment?
- Do the individual and/or family believe that treatment will help with the identified issues?

Ratings & Definitions

- 0** Individual fully involved in his/her own treatment. Family supports treatment as well.

 - 1** Individual or family involved in treatment but not both. Individual may be somewhat involved in treatment, while family members are active or individual may be very involved in treatment while family members are unsupportive.

 - 2** Individual and family are ambivalent about treatment involvement. Individual and/or family may be skeptical about treatment effectiveness or suspicious about clinician intentions.

 - 3** Individual and family are uninterested in treatment involvement. An individual with treatment needs who is not currently in treatment would be rated here.
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