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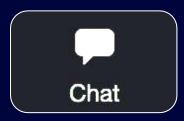
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Assessment of Risk and Need

August 21, 2024 | Presented by:

Dr. Anjali Nandi, PhD, LAC, MAC





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The opinions expressed by presenters in their oral or written material are theirs alone, and do not necessarily represent those of the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College or U.S. DOJ.





Today's Presenter

Dr. Anjali Nandi, PhD, MAC, LAC Associate, NCJTC



Learning Objectives

- Understand the key concepts and purposes of risk and need assessments in the criminal justice context, including their impact on decision-making and resource allocation.
- Become familiar with different assessment instruments and methodologies, learning how to select and apply the appropriate tools for evaluating risk and needs in various criminal justice settings.
- Develop the ability to interpret the outcomes of risk and need assessments accurately, using the results to guide case planning, supervision levels, and intervention strategies.





Principles for Risk/Recidivism Reduction

What we do	How we are
Assess	Frequent role clarification
Motivate	
Target	Collaborative problem solving
Coach skills	
Provide positive reinforcement	Prosocial modeling and reinforcement
Explore/enhance social networks	Attention to the PO/client relationship
Provide feedback	
Quality assurance	



Why Bother?

- Crime rates have reduced by 25% in the past 15 years
- Incarceration rates have increased steeply
- Often, these relationships are inverse (states with low incarceration rates have the highest crime reductions)
- Overreliance on imprisonment as a crime-control strategy
- 75% of those imprisoned every year are convicted of non-violent offenses
- Evidence-based practices can reduce recidivism by 10-20% based on conservative estimates
- Tribal communities have risks and needs that are specific to that population



Guideposts for Decision-Making

- Risk Principle
- Need Principle
- Person Principle
- Relationship Principle





Principles

Risk Principle *Devote your time, energy and resources to moderate and high risk cases.*

Need Principle

Target the criminogenic needs of moderate and high risk offenders (i.e. the dynamic risk factors that, when changed, will change the probability of an offender's recidivism).

Responsivity

General: Design your efforts around behavioral and cognitive-behavioral techniques. Specific: Tailor your efforts to the individual abilities (strengths), style, culture and personality of the client.



Central Eight Needs

- Antisocial Behavior
- Antisocial Personality Pattern
- Antisocial Cognition
- Antisocial Peers
- Substance Abuse
- Dysfunctional Family Relations
- Employment/Education
- Leisure/Recreation





Probation Supervision Session Study

Amount of Session Time Devoted to Terms & Conditions < 15 Min. > 15 Min. **Recidivism Rate** (Adjusting for risk levels) 18.9% 42.3%



Screening/Assessment Components

- AOD screening and assessment
- Risk, Need, Responsivity (3rd gen tools)
- Co-occurring disorders
- Cognitive functioning and TBI
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Grief and Loss





Implementing Assessments

- Assessment must drive all services
- A dynamic process that has to occur throughout the entire treatment
- Assessments inform case planning
- Assessments guide each appointment
- Services must not be postponed even if the assessment process is not fully completed



Common Risk/ Need Assessment Measures

- Total Risk score
- Protective score
- Need Profile
- Classification level
- Change score (upon reassessment)





Sample Instrumentation

- Addiction Severity Index (ASI)
- Computerized Assessment & Referral System (CARS)
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE)
- Brief Grief Questionnaire
- Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
- OSU TBI screen





Important Considerations

- Motivational Interviewing
- Gender-specific Programming
- Trauma-informed Care
- Frequent Reassessment



Contact Information & Final Q&A



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