



# The Risk Screener Violence (RS-V) for Prison Settings

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## Problem within prison practice

Comprehensive risk assessment is time consuming and often not feasible or necessary

## Desire

Easy to use initial risk evaluation for all prisoners



New



Risk Screener Violence (RS-V)

## The main goals of the RS-V

- Establish risk evaluation for all prisoners
- Increase internal safety and prevent recidivism
- Identify prisoners for whom there are high concerns of future violence towards others
- Serve as triage for comprehensive risk assessment
- Inform decision making regarding granting leaves
- Effectively communicate concerns about risk to aftercare facilities

## The content of the RS-V

The RS-V consists of 3 parts and is scored based on Structured Professional Judgement assumptions

1

### 2 Historical Risk factors

1. Previous interpersonal violence outside prison
2. Previous interpersonal violence inside prison

2

### 4 Dynamic Risk factors

1. Recent interpersonal violence
2. Substance use
3. Negative/defiant attitude
4. Impulsive behavior

### 4 Dynamic Protective factors

1. Following rules & agreements
2. Coping with problems & frustrations
3. Positive influences from social network
4. Motivation for crime free future

3

### 3 Final conclusions (coming 6 months) Concerns regarding future...

- A. Violence inside prison
- B. Violence outside prison after release
- C. Violence outside prison during leaves

Not or hardly concerned

Reasonably concerned

Very concerned

Turn the page for the preliminary results of our validation study





# Validation Study of the Risk Screener Violence (RS-V): Preliminary Results

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## Inter-rater reliability

Can the RS-V be rated reliably by independent assessors?



There is an **excellent** degree of agreement between independent assessors of the RS-V. ICC scores range from .82 to .98.

## Predictive validity

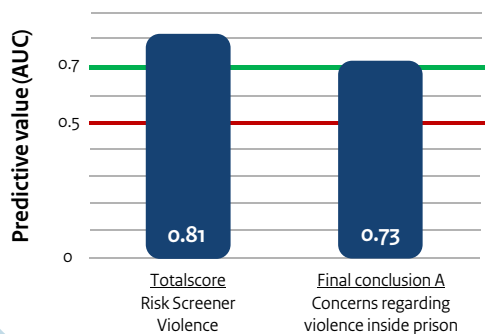
Is the RS-V able to actually predict future violent behaviour of prisoners?

### Violent incidents within prison

n = 958, prison practice study

#### Within prison:

Physical violence (6%) towards others and/or violent threats (8%) towards others within 4 months after scoring the RS-V



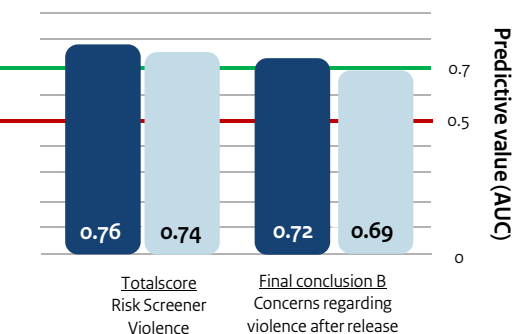
### Violent recidivism outside of prison

n = 571 (6 months), n = 547 (24 months), file study

#### Within the community, post-release:

- **Short-term** violent recidivism (prevalence is 7%, after 6 months)
- **Long-term** violent recidivism (prevalence is 21%, after 24 months)

Good prediction  
Chance level



## Conclusions

1

The predictive validity of the RS-V is **moderate** to **excellent** for violent incidents within prison and violent recidivism outside of prison.

2

Prison employees find the RS-V easy to use and are able to score the RS-V in a reliable way.



## Points of attention

Further improve the discussion of the final conclusions during multi-disciplinary team meetings and discuss how personalised interventions can be tailored to the violence risk concerns.

1

Monitor the correct application of the RS-V in prison practice and provide ongoing user/implementation support.

2