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

Marjam Smeekens (MSc), Michiel de Vries Robbé (PhD), Maaike Kempes (PhD)
info@riskscreener.com

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

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

1. Historical Risk factors
2. Dynamic Risk factors
3. Dynamic Protective factors

1. Previous interpersonal violence outside prison
2. Previous interpersonal violence inside prison
3. Recent interpersonal violence
4. Substance use
5. Negative/defiant attitude
6. Impulsive behavior
7. Following rules & agreements
8. Coping with problems & frustrations
9. Positive influences from social network
10. Motivation for crime free future

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

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

Netherlands Institute for Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology
Custodial Institutions Agency
Ministry of Justice and Security
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

Predictive value (AUC)
Risk Screener Violence
Final conclusion A
Concerns regarding violence inside prison

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)

Predictive value (AUC)
Risk Screener Violence
Final conclusion B
Concerns regarding violence after release

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

1. 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.