


Chapter:	Risk & Needs Assessments	Classification:	Public Document
Subject:	Risk & Needs Assessments - General		
For:	Entire Division	 Authorized by Executive Director	

1. Policy

- 1.1 It is the policy of Correctional Services that all sentenced individuals will be assessed using risk and needs assessment instruments. These instruments are designed to provide a detailed assessment of risk and need characteristics exhibited by the individual and provide a linkage between these factors and the development of case management plans.
- 1.2 Correctional Services has adopted the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) for assessing risk and needs in adults and the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) for assessing risk and needs in young persons.

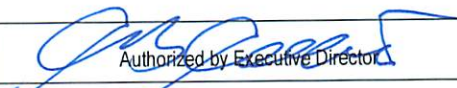
2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of the risk needs assessments is to
 - 2.1.1 provide a standard assessment for both community corrections and correctional facilities which will ensure continuity of case management
 - 2.1.2 assess the likelihood to re-offend
 - 2.1.3 identify criminogenic needs that contribute criminal conduct
 - 2.1.4 assist in developing realistic case management plans
 - 2.1.5 provide uniform correctional service delivery throughout the province
 - 2.1.6 assist in assessing the individual's appropriateness for reduced levels of custody, or conditional release from a correctional facility, or community supervision
 - 2.1.7 maintain the protection of the public by providing a level of supervision consistent with the risk of re-offending
 - 2.1.8 provide efficient matching of criminogenic needs to available resources

3. Definitions

- 3.1 **Case Management Planning** is a method used to assess an individual's risk and need that will direct interventions and employ strategies to reduce the risk of re-offending. Risk and need assessments focus on

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characteristics which research has shown are most directly related to the individual's likelihood of re-offending.

- 3.2 **Criminogenic Risk Factors** are factors linked with criminal activity. They relate to the individual's developmental history, personality, behavioural and attitudinal characteristics, family situation, peer group associations and educational and job performance.
- 3.3 **Criminogenic Need Factors** are dynamic risk factors that are amenable to change and, if changed, can reduce the chances of future criminal activity. These factors include anti-social attitudes, delinquent peer associations, and poor child-parent relations.
- 3.4 **Responsivity Factors** are those factors relevant to the way an individual reacts to different types of interventions. These factors include reading ability, self esteem, anxiety and motivation.
- 3.5 **Professional Override** is a discretionary action which may be considered by the individual(s) responsible for the final decisions about the person. This action can be taken, provided there is a clearly identifiable need following the evaluation of all information on the assessment.
- 3.6 **Risk Principle** - Research indicates that higher risk cases benefit from intensive service and lower risk cases benefit from minimal intervention. The provision of intensive service to those who are low risk will more likely draw them further into the justice system.
- 3.7 **Need Principle** - Service should be targeted to influence the criminogenic needs of the individual.