



Adult Using Family Violence OBSERVATION TOOL

SURNAME: UR NO (IF KNOWN):

GIVEN NAMES:

D.O.B: SEX:

ADMISSION DATE:

CONSULTANT: WARD/CLINIC:

USE LABEL IF AVAILABLE

Use when an adult patient, carer or family member displays behaviours that may indicate the use of family violence. Accurately describe each narrative or behaviour that is observed.

REMEMBER: at Identification level do not ask direct questions about the use of family violence

Primary Address:

Other identifying information if not current patient:

Relationship to person experiencing family violence:

Person who may be experiencing family violence (victim survivor) details

Name: DOB: Primary address:

UR (if known): Other information:

Other identifying information:

Current address:

Children: (potential victim/survivors) document details if known

Full name:	Primary Address:	Relationship to Adult Using Family Violence:
DOB:		

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Section 1 - Observed Narratives or behaviours indicating or disclosing use of family violence risk factors

Observed narratives: Beliefs or attitudes	Yes/No/Unknown	Observation or description
Makes statements that indicate sexist, misogynistic, homophobic, biphobic, transphobic, ableist, ageist or racist beliefs (denigrating person or group based on identity)	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	
Makes statements that indicate gendered entitlement to power, control and decision making	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	
Makes statements that indicate belief in ownership over victim survivor (including children)	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	
Comments negatively on victim survivor's decisions and actions	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	
Pathologises victim survivor (describing their behaviour or presentation as behavioural disorder, mental illness)	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	
Displays limited empathy or desire to understand experiences of victim survivor	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	
Complains that victim survivor does not show them 'respect'	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	
Openly dismisses victim survivor's viewpoints and/or needs, particularly if it conflicts with their own	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> U	



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[Adult victim survivor only] Makes decisions for adult victim survivor

[If applicable] Displays indicators of ownership and entitlement, in relation to children and rights to access and/or custody

[If applicable] Threatens to report partner/ex-partner to authorities about their 'poor parenting'

[If applicable] Criticises ex/partner's parenting (put downs, devaluing worth)

Observed behaviours: Physical / verbal behaviour

Displays controlling behaviour

Displays indicators of jealousy and/or possessiveness

Displays indicators of fixation with victim survivor's actions and whereabouts (monitoring, rumination and intent focus)

Controls adult victim survivor's finances and/or access to employment

Demonstrates threatening non-verbal behaviour (physical standover, intrusion into personal space)

Hostile language and attitudes towards authority figures and systems

Talks about victim survivor in emotionally abusive or degrading ways

Interrupts, corrects and/or dominates victim survivor in conversation

Raises voice and/or yells

Is violent and/or controlling towards victim survivor before, during or after the session

Insists on sitting in on appointments with victim survivor

Discloses any harm or threat to harm animals or pets

Physical signs of violent altercation (on victim survivor or person suspected of using violence)

Expresses feelings of excessive anger that is 'outside their control'

Discloses that they have targeted and/or damaged victim survivor's property

Observed narratives: Minimising or justifying

Minimising physical harm and/or neglectful behaviour

Direct comments or euphemisms that could indicate use of violence

Presents or talks about themselves as the real victim (victim stance)

Presents as having difficulty with emotional and/or behavioural regulation



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Uses impulsivity as a justification of violent and abusive behaviours (may relate to presenting needs such as mental health, use of alcohol/drugs)

Observed narrative or behaviour: Clinician experience

Tries to get you [clinician] to agree with their negative views about partner or family member [invitation to collude] throughout service engagement, over time

Clinician observes or feels intimidated, manipulated and/or controlled during sessions

Immediate risk
Discloses a targeted threat against any person

Description of threat

Section 2: Presenting needs and circumstances (related to risk or protective factors)

Consider the person's context:

Note any presenting needs or circumstances that could be stabilised or protective factors that could be strengthened
 Note link to any identified risk factors

Personal identity, status of relationships/dynamics

Comment yes / no / unknown and detail of observations

Personal identity, attributes and experiences

Partner (current/former), children, other family members

Social and community connections

Connection to friends or extended family network

Connection/sense of belonging to community, cultural groups, networks, social media, clubs

Presence of systems interventions ^{RF}

Police, Child Protection, Court, Corrections or other coordinated interventions

Practical or environmental issues

Aboriginal cultural or diverse community support services

Professional or therapeutic services, counselling, ^{RF} disability services, medical or mental health services^{RF}

Centrelink or employment services, ^{RF} financial counselling, housing or homelessness, tenancy or private rental services

Legal services, migration services

Communication (e.g. access to telephone, social media), transport



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Section 3: Presence of risk indicators / factors (serious risk indicators)

Observed narratives or behaviours indicate or disclose use of family violence risk (to adult or child victim survivor):	<input type="checkbox"/> Not indicated <input type="checkbox"/> Indicated <input type="checkbox"/> Requires immediate intervention
Risk to self (disclosed risk of suicide or self-harm):	<input type="checkbox"/> Not indicated <input type="checkbox"/> Indicated <input type="checkbox"/> Requires immediate intervention
Risk indicated to any other person in community (including you/clinician)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not indicated <input type="checkbox"/> Indicated <input type="checkbox"/> Requires immediate intervention
Have you used this tool to determine the predominant aggressor? (responding to misidentification)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Is further assessment required to determine the predominant aggressor? (if uncertain) If yes, update your records and share information with other professionals	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Shared with:
Has Intermediate Assessment been completed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Referral made for Intermediate Assessment
Has information been shared?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Comment/detail of information shared: Shared with:
Actions:	Comment/detail of actions:

Section 4: Actions required

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS TO TAKE IN THE PRESENCE OF SERIOUS RISK

- Seek urgent secondary consultation with senior clinician, social work or manager.
- Seek secondary consultation with The Orange Door 1800 512 359 (business hours); Safe Steps 1800 015 188 (after hours) or Men's Referral Service (No To Violence) – 1300 766 491
- Contact Police 000 if you have immediate concern for the safety of any person
- Share risk relevant information in accordance with hospital information sharing protocols (FVISS and CISS)

If immediate risk indicators are not disclosed but indicators an adult may be using family violence are observed:

- Seek secondary consultation with senior clinician, social work or manager. consider secondary consultation with The Orange Door, Safe Steps or the Men's Referral Service.
- Safely document according to protocol.

If the person discloses the use of family violence, no immediate or serious risk indicators are identified and if it is safe to do so offer information and referral to The Orange Door or Men's Referral Service (numbers above)

ACTIONS TAKEN

Examples: Secondary consultation with senior staff member, external agency, referrals to social work (for presenting needs), proactive information sharing (follow information sharing protocols)

Details:

Is the adult demonstrating indicators of use of family violence aware of referral? Yes No

AUTHOR DETAILS

Date: Name:	Signature:
Designation/Role:	Contact/Pager No: