

# ODARA Scoring Form

A summary of ODARA scoring instructions is provided below for reference. The ODARA manual is found in Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., & Rice, M.E. (2010). Risk assessment for domestically violent men: Tools for criminal justice, offender intervention, and victim services. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

**Defendant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SBI #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Live Scan Verified? Yes**  **No**

**Agency Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ORI #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Agency Case #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Officer Completing ODARA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Index Assault Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ODARA Completion Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Defendant identifies as:** Male  Female  **Victim identifies as:** Male  Female

**Crime(s) Charged:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Administer ODARA when the following offenses are charged and the Victim is a Partner (as terms are defined below):**

- Homicide, 2C:11-1
- Aggravated Assault, 2C:12-1b
- Kidnapping, 2C:13-1
- Sexual Assault, 2C:14-2
- Robbery, 2C:15-1
- Simple Assault, 2C:12-1a (w/contact or w/weapon)
- Terroristic Threats, 2C:12-3 (w/contact or w/weapon)
- False Imprisonment, 2C:13-3 (w/contact or w/weapon)
- Criminal Sexual Contact, 2C:14-3
- 2nd degree Burglary, 2C:18-2 (w/contact or w/weapon)
- Any other crime involving risk of death or SBI, 2C:25-19a(18)

## DEFINITIONS

**Index Assault:** The most recent incident in which the person being assessed (Defendant, as defined below) assaulted his/her current or former Partner (as defined below). Assault is any act of violence that involved physical contact with the Victim (as defined below) or a credible threat of death made with a weapon displayed in the presence of the Victim.

**Defendant:** For the purposes of scoring ODARA, the Defendant is the person being assessed.

**Victim:** For the purposes of scoring ODARA, the Victim is the person upon whom the Index Assault was committed.

**Partner:** For the purposes of scoring ODARA, a Partner is a person who currently is, or previously was, involved with the Defendant in an intimate relationship. This includes current or former spouses, current or former intimate cohabitants, co-parents, and those currently or formerly in a dating relationship.

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Score each Item as "1" if the evidence indicates that the Item is present and "0" if the evidence indicates that it is not present. The ODARA total score is the sum of the Item scores.
- If available documentation indicates that an Item might be present but the information is unclear or incomplete, then the Item may be treated as unknown or missing and scored as "?" In such cases, the Prorating Table should be used.
- The ODARA can be scored with up to 5 missing or unknown Items (scored as "?"). The ODARA cannot be interpreted if 6 or more items are scored as "?"

### 1. Confinement of the Victim at the Index Assault

**SAMPLE QUESTION:** *This time, did he/she do anything to prevent you from leaving the location?*

**Confinement:** Any act by the Defendant that physically prevents, or attempts to prevent, the Victim from leaving the scene of the assault.

- ✓ Count a charge of kidnapping, criminal restraint, or false imprisonment at the Index Assault.
- ✓ Examples: confining the Victim in a locked room, barring an exit.
- ✓ In locations without walls or doors, count actions taken to impede the Victim's active attempts to escape from the location.
- ✗ Do not include: any threats to harm the Victim if he/she leaves, pinning the Victim down in the course of an assault, cutting off the telephone, or confining persons other than the Victim.
- ✗ Do not include any confinement occurring before or after the Index Assault (i.e., during a separate incident).

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## 2. Threat to harm or kill anyone at the Index Assault

**SAMPLE QUESTION:** *This time, did he/she threaten to harm or kill you or anyone else?*

- ✓ Count any threat to harm or kill uttered at the Index Assault by the Defendant to cause bodily harm to any person other than the Defendant (i.e., do not count threats of self-harm or suicide).
  - ✓ Count bodily gestures commonly recognized as threats of physical harm, e.g., mimic shooting a gun or slashing a throat.
  - ✗ Threats involving only pets or property, or threats of non-bodily harm, do not count for this Item.
  - ✗ Do not include any threats occurring before or after the Index Assault.
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## 3. Victim concern about future assaults

**SAMPLE QUESTION:** *Are you concerned that he/she will assault you or the children again?*

**Victim concern:** Includes any statement made by the Victim that he/she is concerned, afraid, worried, or certain that the Defendant will assault him/her or the Victim's child(ren) in the future.

- ✓ This statement must be made by the Victim in the first report at or after the Index Assault. If no statement about Victim concern is present in a police report, a statement made by the Victim in the first report to victim support services can be counted.
  - ✗ Do not count the Victim's concern for safety, or the child(ren)'s safety, in the course of the Index Assault.
  - ✗ Do not include statements made by the Victim on a separate occasion before the Index Assault.
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## 4. Victim and/or Defendant have more than 1 child altogether

**SAMPLE QUESTIONS:** *How many children do you have? How many does your current Partner (Defendant) have?*

- ✓ Count the biological or adopted children of the Defendant.
  - ✓ Count the biological or adopted children of the Victim.
  - ✓ Count only living children, whether they are minors or adults, and whether they are living with the Victim, Defendant, or elsewhere. There must be a total of at least 2 children to score 1 for this Item.
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## 5. Victim has a biological child with someone other than the Defendant

**SAMPLE QUESTION:** *Do you have a child from any previous relationships (other than with the Defendant)?*

To determine whether the Victim has a biological child from a previous partner:

- ✓ Count the children of the Victim, but count only the Victim's biological children whose other parent is not the Defendant.
- ✓ Count only living children, whether they are minors or adults, and whether they are living with the Victim, Defendant, or elsewhere.
- ✗ Do not count adopted children for this Item.

The Victim need only have 1 child with a previous partner to score 1 for this Item.

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## 6. Assault on Victim while she was pregnant (at Index Assault or prior assault)

**SAMPLE QUESTION:** *Did he/she ever assault you when you were pregnant?*

- ✓ Include only assaults against the Victim. Do not count assaults against anyone other than the Victim.
  - ✓ Count the Index Assault or any prior assault on the Victim, committed by the Defendant, if the Victim was pregnant at the time.
  - ✓ The incident must include physical contact, the use or attempted use of a weapon to contact the Victim's body, or a threat of harm made while displaying a weapon. If you do not have a detailed description of the incident, count a charge of assault or other violent offense if it is known that the Victim was the Index Assault Victim and was pregnant at the time.
  - ✗ It is not required that the Defendant knew that the Victim was pregnant.
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## 7. Two or more indicators of substance abuse

**SAMPLE QUESTIONS:** *Did he/she drink alcohol just before or during this assault? Did he/she use drugs just before or during the assault?*

*Did he/she abuse alcohol or drugs in the past few days or weeks before this assault?*

*Did he/she abuse alcohol or drugs more than usual in the few days or weeks before the assault?*

*Before this assault, was he/she more angry or violent when he/she used drugs or alcohol?*

*Before this assault, had he/she ever been charged for something he/she did when drinking?*

*Before this assault, had he/she had an alcohol or drug problem any time since he/she was 18?*

**Substance abuse indicators:** More than 1 indicator of substance abuse is needed to score 1 for this Item. Count any 2 of these specific indicators pertaining to the Defendant.

- ✓ The Defendant consumed alcohol or used drugs immediately before or during the Index Assault.
  - ✓ The Defendant abused drugs and/or alcohol in the days or weeks before the Index Assault (e.g., alcohol intoxication, frequent alcohol use, use of street drugs, misuse of medication).
  - ✓ The Defendant noticeably increased his/her abuse of drugs and/or alcohol in the days or weeks before the Index Assault (without a return to normal consumption prior to the Index Assault).
  - ✓ The Defendant had been more angry or violent when using drugs and/or alcohol before the Index Assault.
  - ✓ The Defendant consumed alcohol before or during an offense (including driving while intoxicated) pre-dating the Index Assault.
  - ✓ From age 18 to the time of the Index Assault, the Defendant's alcohol use resulted in problems or interference in his/her life; this can include alcohol use related to violations of the law resulting in a charge or revocation of conditional release, withdrawal symptoms, inability to decrease use, or problems attributable to alcohol use (such as financial, job, relationship, legal, or health problems).
  - ✓ From age 18 to the time of the Index Assault, the Defendant's illicit or street drug use or misuse of prescription drugs resulted in some problems or interference in his/her life; this can include drug use related to violations of the law resulting in a charge or revocation of conditional release, withdrawal symptoms, inability to decrease use, or problems attributable to drug use (such as financial, job, relationship, legal, or health problems).
  - ✗ Do not include medications taken as prescribed.
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## 8. Victim faces at least 1 barrier to support

**SAMPLE QUESTIONS:** *Do you have any children at home for whom you provide care?*

*Do you live in a home with no phone?*

*Do you live where there is no access to transportation?*

**Barriers to support:** Count any of these specific circumstances faced by the Victim. Circumstances not included in this list do not count.

- ✓ The Victim has 1 or more children age 18 or under who live with the Victim and for whom the Victim provides care.
- ✓ The Victim has no telephone, e.g., no mobile, cell, or landline in the home.
- ✓ The Victim has no access to a vehicle, no access to public transportation near his/her home, and no money for a taxi.
- ✓ The Victim lives in a rural area with nobody living close by.
- ✓ The Victim consumed alcohol or drugs just before or during the Index Assault, or the Victim has a history of alcohol or drug abuse (e.g., alcohol intoxication, frequent alcohol use, use of street drugs, misuse of prescription medication).
- ✗ Do not include medications taken as prescribed.

The Victim need only experience 1 of these barriers to score 1 for this Item.

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## 9. Prior violent incident against a non-domestic victim

**SAMPLE QUESTIONS:** *Is he/she violent toward people other than you and the children? Does he/she fight with or hit others?*

**Prior violence against a non-domestic victim:** Defendant assaulted any person who is not a Partner or Partner's child.

- ✓ A specific incident is required, but unlike Item 11, presence in a police report or criminal record is not required.
  - ✓ The incident must include physical contact, the use or attempted use of a weapon to contact the person's body, or a threat of harm made while displaying a weapon.
  - ✓ The violent incident must have occurred on a separate occasion, before the Index Assault. Information can come from sources other than criminal justice documentation, and the incident does not need to be known to the police.
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# ODARA Scoring Form

## **10. Prior domestic incident of assault in a police report or criminal record (against current or former Partner or Partner's child)**

*Prior domestic:* The Defendant previously assaulted a Partner or a Partner's child, and it is recorded in a police report or criminal record.

- ✓ The incident must include physical contact, the use or attempted use of a weapon to contact the victim's body, or a threat of harm made while displaying a weapon. If you do not have a detailed description of the incident, count a charge of assault or other violent offense against a Partner or Partner's child as a domestic incident. (Note: a charge is not required.)
  - ✓ The prior incident must have been reported to the police.
  - ✓ The prior incident must have occurred on a separate occasion, before the Index Assault. If the Index Assault is part of a cluster of assaults documented in 1 police report, count any domestic assault against a Partner or Partner's child that occurred at least 24 hours before the Index Assault as a prior domestic incident.
  - ✗ Incidents involving only pets or property do not count for this Item.
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## **11. Prior non-domestic incident of assault in a police report or criminal record (against any person other than a Partner or a Partner's child)**

*Prior non-domestic:* The Defendant previously assaulted any person who is not a Partner or a Partner's child, and it is recorded in a police report or criminal record. This Item differs from Item 10 only in who the assaulted person is.

- ✓ The incident must include physical contact, the use or attempted use of a weapon to contact the victim's body, or a threat of harm made while displaying a weapon. If you do not have a detailed description of the incident, count a charge of assault or other violent offense against someone other than a Partner or a Partner's child as a non-domestic incident. (Note: a charge is not required.)
  - ✓ The incident must have been reported to the police.
  - ✓ The incident must have occurred on a separate occasion, before the Index Assault. If the Index Assault is part of a cluster of assaults documented in 1 police report, count any non-domestic assault that occurred at least 24 hours before the Index Assault as a prior non-domestic incident.
  - ✗ Incidents involving only pets or property do not count for this Item.
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## **12. Prior custodial sentence of 30 days or more**

*Prior custodial sentence:* The final disposition for an offense committed by the Defendant, handed down before the Index Assault.

- ✓ The sentence itself must be for at least 30 days.
  - ✓ The Defendant must have been admitted to an adult or juvenile correctional facility, prison, or jail, but the Defendant need not have been in custody for the entire 30 days. Count the sentence, not the time spent in custody.
  - ✗ Do not include a sentence given for the Index Assault.
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## **13. Failure on current or prior conditional release (including bail, parole, probation, or pretrial release order) or conditions of a restraining order (TRO, FRO, DORO, SORO, SASPA, stalking)**

*Conditional release failure:* The conditional release must have been ordered before the Index Assault.

- ✓ If Defendant was on a conditional release at the time of the Index Assault, and no information is available about release conditions, count the Index Assault as a conditional release failure, because such releases typically require offenders to remain offense free.
  - ✓ The Defendant must have been at liberty in the community under supervision, monitoring, or other requirement ordered by a criminal court, or a no-contact order imposed by any court.
  - ✓ Any known violations of the conditional release or violations of release conditions count for this Item.
  - ✓ Any charges incurred while on conditional release count for this Item. Count any known failure, even if it did not result in a charge.
  - ✓ Examples: committing a new criminal offense; failing to appear for court; failing to attend a probation appointment; drinking when prohibited by court or probation; going to a person's home or work when prohibited; contacting a person when prohibited.
  - ✗ Do not include violations occurring after the Index Assault.
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## ODARA Scoring Form

**Raw Score** (sum of Items scored 1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Missing or Unknown ("?") Items \_\_\_\_\_  
**ODARA Final Score** (use Prorating Table if indicated) \_\_\_\_\_

### PRORATING TABLE

Only use if 1 or more Items are scored as missing or unknown ("?"), indicating the Item might be present but the available documentation or information is unclear or incomplete. *Note:* The ODARA can be scored with up to 5 missing Items. The ODARA cannot be interpreted if 6 or more items are scored as "?"

Number of Missing Items					
Raw Score	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	2
2	2	2	3	3	3
3	3	4	4	4	5
4	4	5	5	6	7+
5	5	6	7+	7+	7+
6	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+

*Note:* If Raw Score is 7 or above, do not use the Prorating Table, and count the Raw Score as the Final Score.

### ACTUARIAL TABLE

Final Score	Percent who score in this range	Percent scoring lower	Percent scoring higher	Percent who Recidivate
0	9	0	91	7
1	17	9	74	17
2	21	26	53	22
3	20	47	33	34
4	13	67	20	39
5-6	14	80	6	53
7-13	6	94	0	74

**EXAMPLE FOR REPORTING ODARA SCORES:** Defendant scored a 5 on the ODARA. As indicated in the ODARA norms, only 6% of men with a police report of domestic assault obtained higher scores. Over 53% of men in this group committed a new assault against a female Partner within an average of 5 years.