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| Family and Domestic Violence Risk Assessment Tool |

Service providers that have a role in responding to family and domestic violence are required to conduct a risk assessment considering the adult victim’s assessment of the risk, evidenced based key risk factors and the service provider’s professional judgement[[1]](#footnote-1).

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| **1 Summary** |

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| **Victim details** | **Perpetrator details** |
| **Name: Click here to enter text.** | **Name: Click here to enter text.** |
| **Date of birth: Click here to enter text.** | **Date of birth: Click here to enter text.** |
| **Phone number: Click here to enter text.** | **Phone number: Click here to enter text.** |
| **Address: Click here to enter text.** | **Address: Click here to enter text.** |
| **Emergency contact: Click here to enter text.** |
| **Nature of relationship between victim / perpetrator: Click here to enter text.** |
| **Name(s) and date(s) of birth of children: Click here to enter text.** |

**Completed by:**

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| **Name:** Click here to enter text. | **Date completed: Click here to enter a date.** |
| **Agency:** Click here to enter text. | **Phone: Click here to enter text.** |
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| **Initial assessment** |
| **Level of FDV risk**  | [ ]  **At HIGH RISK of serious harm** | [ ]  **At RISK of harm** |
| *Levels of risk are defined in Section 5 Assessment / Analysis.* |
| **Critical or imminent safety concerns** |
| **Please list any immediate concerns** Click here to enter text. |
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| **2 Risk factor identification** |
| **Violence toward victim/s** |
| **Risk factor** | **Yes** | **No** | **Unknown** | **Source of information if not adult victim (e.g. Police)** |
| Was a weapon used by the perpetrator in most recent event\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Is the violence becoming worse or more frequent\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever physically harmed or threatened to harm adult victim\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever raped or sexually assaulted adult victim\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever choked, strangled or suffocated the adult victim or attempted to do so\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever tried or threatened to kill the adult victim\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Is the perpetrator stalking the adult victim (could include harassing and/or monitoring the adult victim using others and/or technology)\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Is the perpetrator jealous and/or controlling toward the adult victim\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has there been a recent separation or planned separation in the near future\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever harmed or threatened to harm or kill children\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever harmed or threatened to harm or kill pets or other animals\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever harmed or threatened to harm or kill other family members |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator isolated the adult victim from family, friends and/or other social supports |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator restricted the adult victim’s access to money |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
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| **Perpetrator** |
| **Risk factor** | **Yes** | **No** | **Unknown** | **Source of information if not adult victim (e.g. Police)** |
| Does the perpetrator have access to firearms or prohibited weapons\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever threatened or attempted suicide\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Does the perpetrator misuse/abuse drugs and/or alcohol\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator ever experienced mental ill health# |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Is the perpetrator unemployed  |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Is the perpetrator experiencing financial difficulties |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator breached any court orders (i.e. bail, violence restraining order and/or police order conditions) |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Is the perpetrator currently on bail or parole in relation to violent offences |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the perpetrator served a time of imprisonment or been released recently from custody in relation to violent offences |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Does the perpetrator have a history of violent behaviour (not family violence) |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Does the perpetrator’s family pose a risk to the adult victim |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
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| **Children** |
| **Risk factor** | **Yes** | **No** | **Unknown** | **Source of information if not adult victim (e.g. Police)** |
| Is the adult victim pregnant or is there a new birth\* |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the child ever been in the adult victim’s arms when she/he has been attacked\*  |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Has the child ever tried to intervene in the violence |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Are there child contact or residency issues and/or are there current Family Court proceedings |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| Are there children from a previous relationship present in the household |[ ] [ ] [ ]  Click here to enter text. |
| # The presence of mental ill health must be carefully considered in relation to the co-occurrence of other risk factors.\* These risk factors indicate an increased likelihood of a victim being killed.  |
| **3 Adult victim’s assessment of the risk** |
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| How fearful is the adult victim of the perpetrator | [ ]  Not afraid | [ ]  Afraid | [ ]  Terrified | [ ]  Unable to answer |
| What concerns did the adult victim express?  | Click here to enter text. |
| What did the adult victim think the perpetrator might do and to whom? | Click here to enter text. |
| Other important comments | Click here to enter text. |

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|  **4 Professional judgement** |
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| Are you aware of any other additional factors, circumstances or details which make you believe there is risk or high risk to the safety of the adult victim, children and/or others? | Click here to enter text. |
| Issues to consider may include: the adult victim’s situation in relation to disability, substance misuse, mental health issues, cultural/ language barriers; whether they are willing to engage with a support service; whether the perpetrator’s occupation or interests has given them unique access to weapons etc. | Click here to enter text. |
| Do you believe any children in the household are at risk of harm? | Click here to enter text. |

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| **5 Assessment/Analysis** |
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| **Level of FDV risk** | **Select appropriate level of risk based on professional judgement, evidenced base risk factors and the victim's own perception of their level of risk where available.** |
| [ ]  **At HIGH RISK of serious harm*****At high risk of serious harm* means there is evidence of a serious risk to the adult victim and children’s safety and wellbeing and urgent action is necessary to prevent or lessen the risk.****A victim is identified as *at high risk of serious harm* if:*** a number of factors with an (\*) are checked 'yes' on the risk assessment tool;
* there is a history of physical violence by the perpetrator toward the adult and child victims (if there are children); and/or
* in your professional judgement, combined with evidence based risk factors, the adult and child victims (if there are children) are likely to be in grave danger if immediate action is not taken.
 | [ ]  **At RISK of harm*****At risk of harm* means there is evidence of a risk to the adult victim and children’s safety and wellbeing.** **A victim is identified as *at risk of harm* if:*** one or more risk factors are checked 'yes' on the risk assessment tool;
* there is a history of violence by the perpetrator toward the adult and child victims, and/or
* the violence is escalating.
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| **6 Responding to the level of risk** |
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| **Next steps** | **Details of action** |
| [ ]  Immediate safety addressed | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  Safety plans developed | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  Agency collaboration & information sharing | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  Warm referrals made for:[ ]  Adult victim[ ]  Children[ ]  Perpetrator | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  Multi-agency meeting convened | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  Police contacted | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  VRO application | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  Child protection notified | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  Other | Click here to enter text. |
| [ ]  **Are these next steps working toward making it safer for the adult and child/ren victims?** |
| [ ]  **Are these next steps holding the perpetrator accountable for their violence?** |

**NB: The above is a non-exhaustive list of actions to be taken. Every case is unique and appropriate actions will be dependent on the outcome of the family and domestic violence risk assessment.**

1. This risk assessment tool is based on comprehensive research including multiple examinations of the predictive accuracy of risk factors, victim perception and professional judgement in assessing risk of repeat assault or potential lethality in family and domestic violence cases (Campbell 2003; 2004; 2005). See ***Fact sheet 5 Key risk factors*** for further information and references. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)