

Appendix C: How to Use the IPPI-RAT

Step 1: Case Information

Conduct interviews

with all available informants to gather case information from victim, alleged offender, any additional informants including children, witnesses, commanders, law enforcement.

Assess for the risk factors in your interviews.

- These interviews should be conducted **INDIVIDUALLY** with each partner.
- The FAP provider should never interview the victim in the presence of the offender. * If both partners are being assessed as alleged offenders, complete two IPPI-RATs.

Step 2: Code The Presence or Absence of the Risk Factors

- Assess and resolve any inconsistencies between information sources.
- Seek necessary additional information from more sources
- In making a final determination if a risk factor is present, the provider has to use clinical judgment to determine if the risk factor is present.

Step 3: Compute the Total Score

- Using the IPPI-RAT form indicate whether your response to the item is "yes," "no," or "don't know."
- Avoid "Don't know" whenever possible: Omitted risk factors will lead to a lower judgment of risk than is accurate.
- **You are to complete the tool, NOT the client.** The client should not see this form. Their level of risk is communicated to them verbally in step 6.
- Add all the items that you marked "Yes". This is your total scale score.

Assess regarding offender:

- Caused minor injury (not requiring medical care) in incident.
- Ever choked or strangled partner.
- Denies incident occurred.
- Increased frequency or severity of violence toward partner.
- Blames others for incident.
- Attempts to control partner's access to friends/family/resources.
- Physically aggressive toward partner prior to incident.
- Feels desperate about relationship.
- Emotionally abusive towards partner.
- Ever used or threatened to use weapons against partner.

- Expresses ideas or opinions that justify violence towards partner.

- Holds unrealistic expectations of partner.

Assess regarding victim:

- Dissatisfied with military lifestyle.

- Attempting to leave relationship.

- Fears for self or children or pets

Step 4: Determine the Level of Risk

Low-to-Moderate

Approximately **1 out of 10** will experience a subsequent incident leading to physical injury (0-1 points)

High

Approximately **1 out of 3** will experience a subsequent incident leading to physical injury (2-7 points)

Very High

Approximately **2 out of 3** will experience a subsequent incident leading to physical injury (8 or more points)

Step 5: Risk Management Strategies

[adapted from Kropp, Hart and Belfrage (2005)]

- After determining the level of risk, determine appropriate risk management strategies (higher levels of risk should result in greater number of risk management strategies). Each of these categories should be addressed. Refer to the brief user manual for a more detailed explanation.

- Monitoring/Surveillance
- Control/Supervision
- Assessment/Treatment
- Victim Safety Planning

Step 6: Communicating Risk

- Using the knowledge gained from the IPPI-RAT, communicate the level of risk for another incident of physical injury to the involved parties: victim advocate, commander victim and offender.
- It is appropriate to show individuals overall level of risk, but not the individual items of the scale. Often times, this would elicit defensive reactions from involved parties.

- Victim Advocate
- Commander
- Victim
- Offender

****DISCLAIMER:** This handout is meant to supplement this manual. This is not to be used in isolation, but as a reference tool after having reviewed the manuals.