



QUESTION GUIDE

for

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS

What to Ask Before Adopting a Risk Assessment Tool

The following is a guideline for criminal justice professionals and institutions who are considering adopting a risk assessment tool. It is important that your institution is able to answer and understand the answers to these questions before a new tool is implemented. Be aware that in the process of answering these questions you may find that the risk tool you are considering is not actually suitable to your client population or your institutional goals. To answer some of these questions, you may need to contact the institution or company which developed the risk assessment.

Question

Answer

<p>What outcome(s) was the tool Designed to predict?</p>	
<p>How far into the future was the tool designed to predict?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> 2 years <input type="checkbox"/> 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>
<p>Has the tool been validated? If so, when?</p>	
<p>How accurate is the tool?</p>	
<p>Was the population this tool was created for substantially different than your target population?</p>	
<p>Does your jurisdiction have consensus that this tool could be used for:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sentencing decisions <input type="checkbox"/> Case management decisions <input type="checkbox"/> Pretrial placement <input type="checkbox"/> Jail population decisions <input type="checkbox"/> release decisions <input type="checkbox"/> Conditions of <input type="checkbox"/> Other supervision</p>
<p>Who is the appropriate research partner/consultant that can answer future questions regarding this tool?</p>	
<p>Is there a financial cost for using this tool?</p>	