Guidance on OGP and OVP Predictors in OASys

It is now a year since the release of 4.3.1 when the OGP and OVP scores were introduced. This document provides additional guidance for users on how to use the scores and risk bands when assessing risk of re-offending in OASys assessments and reports.

What is meant by OGP and OVP?

OASys Release 4.3.1 provides 3 predictors of the likelihood of proven reoffending:
- OASys General Predictor score (OGP);
- OASys Violence Predictor score (OVP); and
- Offender Group Reconviction Score v.3 (OGRS3).

The OGP and OVP scores replace the OASys score.

The OGP predicts the likelihood of ‘general’ i.e. non sexual, non violent offences, and the OVP predicts the likelihood of violent type offences.

OGP and OVP predict general and violent reoffending more accurately than OGRS3, therefore OGRS3 scores should only be referred to when OGP and OVP are not used e.g. when writing Fast Delivery Reports.

Both OGP and OVP contain a mixture of static (60%) and dynamic (40%) risk factors from sections 2-12. The static OGP scoring is based on OGRS3 while the static element of OVP scoring gives extra weight to violent offences.

Which dynamic factors feed into the OGP score?

Accommodation, Employment, Lifestyle and Associates, Drug misuse, Thinking and Behaviour, and Attitudes.

Which dynamic factors feed into the OVP score?

Accommodation, Employment, Alcohol misuse, Emotional Well-Being, Thinking and Behaviour, and Attitudes.

It is important for Assessors to ensure that all questions that are used to calculate the OGP and OVP scores are completed. This includes the OGRS3 questions in section 1.

The Summary sheet of OASys shows which factors feed into the OGP and OVP scores.
Certain types of offenders require additional specialist assessments to more accurately predict their risk of reoffending. Sexual offending risk should be assessed using Risk Matrix 2000 and SARN (Structured Assessment of Risk and Needs). SARA (Spousal Assault Risk Assessment) will aid assessment of domestic violence risk although the OVP score is also likely to be relevant.

What do the scores mean?

Both predictors are scored out of 100, leading to percentage predictions of proven reoffending within 1 and 2 years. The 2 year score will always be higher as it incorporates the 1 year score. The 2 year scores translate into four score bands: Low, Medium, High and Very High.

For OGP: 0-33% (Low), 34-66% (Medium), 67-84% (High), 85-99% (Very High).
For OVP: 0-29% (Low), 30-59% (Medium), 60-79% (High), 80-99% (Very High).

How should the scores be used?

The OGP and OVP scores/risk bands are intended as a guide to aid professional judgement when assessing risk of reoffending and serious harm.

- Assessors should be using the OVP scores as a factor when assessing the overall risk of serious harm.
- The OGP and OVP scores/risk bands should help assessors to identify appropriate sentence proposals and the targeting of interventions.

How can an offender’s risk of reoffending be measured over time?

Because the old OASys score was out of 168, and the OVP and OGP are scored out of 100, it is not possible to directly compare the old OASys score with the new OGP (or OVP) scores.

The bandings have also changed and should not be compared directly. Previously a large number of offenders were categorised as “high” risk of reoffending making it difficult to identify those with a particularly high risk. OGP and OVP distinguish “very high” from “high”, and place a greater proportion of offenders in the “low” and “medium” categories. It is therefore easier to identify those who pose the greatest risk of reoffending.

If there is a difference in bands between earlier assessments with OASys scores and later assessments with OGP / OVP scores, this does not necessarily mean that the offender’s risk of reoffending has gone down. It may be that the risk of reoffending has stayed the same, simply that the offender has been categorised differently using the new bandings.

If an offender has earlier OASys assessments with an OASys score, and recent assessments with OGP and OVP scores, assessors will need to look closely at where behaviour and attitudes have changed over the review period and record and evidence this when reviewing risk management plans, sentence plans and when writing parole or court reports.

Contact for further information: