

Risk Insight Scale (RIS)

The Risk Insight Scale (RIS) is developed to assess, quantify and evidence the insight and understanding of individuals with intellectual disabilities who engage in offending and / or risk behaviour. The scale assesses insight in two domains:

- 1) Insight into risk behaviour and/or offending behaviours
- 2) Insight into the need for treatment for risk behaviour and/or offending behaviours

Intended population

The RIS is designed to assess insight in individuals with intellectual disabilities who engage in offending and / or challenging behaviour.

It is suitable for assessing insight into offending behaviour however it recognises that some individuals may have offending or pre-offending behaviour that has not led directly to a conviction. As such the wording permits assessment of behaviours that may cause problems or lead to an individual getting into trouble.

It is primarily designed for use with inpatient populations however the RIS can be used in community services.

The RIS is designed for use with individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. There is no specified age range. The only criterion is that individuals assessed are able to consent to the assessment and have sufficient cognitive ability to understand the concepts and language of the scale.

Administration

The questionnaire is administered qualitatively as an interview. The administrator is required to have significant prior knowledge of the respondent in regard to their background history and current presentation. Respondents *should be encouraged to provide as much information as possible* in order to evidence their level of insight and understanding. Each individual item is scored using the below criteria:

Scoring

0	No insight	- Denies or greatly minimises the presence of difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Does not have an understanding of external, internal, interpersonal or contextual factors that may aggravate difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Does not recognise or acknowledge the seriousness of their behaviour in terms of its impact on self or others - Denies or greatly minimises that treatment or management may or have had a beneficial effect on difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed
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		- Lacks any knowledge, awareness or understanding of the assessed construct (e.g. is unaware of a specific diagnosis, meaning or impact) - No reflection or unrealistic views on the potential risk of relapse or recidivism and can offer very limited or no strategies to minimise this risk
1	Partial Insight	- Gives partial or incomplete understanding for the item - Can possibly offer one or two rudimentary or incongruous responses - Cannot fully or comprehensively evidence their position or views - Respondents position or view is inconsistent with information that is evidenced, recorded or observed - Reports a partial or incomplete description of the presence of difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Provides a partial or incomplete understanding of external, internal, interpersonal or contextual factors that may aggravate difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Provides a partial or incomplete acknowledgement of the seriousness of their behaviour in terms of its impact on self or others - Provides a partial or incomplete acknowledgement that treatment or management may have or have had a beneficial effect on difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Has limited partial or incomplete knowledge, awareness or understanding of the assessed construct (e.g. is only vaguely aware of a specific diagnosis, meaning or impact) - Reflects to a partial or semi-realistic extent on the potential risk of relapse or recidivism and can offer some limited strategies to minimise this risk
2	Good/Full insight	- Gives a full and complete account can list several connected themes or ideas supporting insight and understanding - Can fully or comprehensively evidence their position or views - Respondents position or view is consistent with information that is evidenced, recorded or observed - Reports a full or comprehensive description of the presence of difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Provides a full or comprehensive understanding of external, internal, interpersonal or contextual factors that may aggravate difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Provides a full or comprehensive acknowledgement of the seriousness of their behaviour in terms of its impact on self or others - Provides a full or comprehensive acknowledgement that treatment or management may have or have had a beneficial effect on difficulties that are evidenced, recorded or observed - Has complete knowledge, awareness and understanding of the assessed construct (e.g. is fully aware of a specific diagnosis, meaning or impact) - Reflects fully and realistically on the potential risk of relapse or recidivism but can offer strategies to minimise this risk

The scores are summed to provide a total for each domain. The domain scores are summed to provide a Total Insight Score.

Risk Insight Scale

Demographic Information		
Service User Name / ID:		
Age:		
Date of Administration:		
Male / Female:		
Diagnoses:	i) ii) iii)	
Stage Completed:	Admission	
	Pre-Intervention	
	During Intervention	
	Post Intervention	
	Follow-up	
	Review / Risk Assessment Update	
	Other	
Evaluator Name / ID		

Read out explanatory paragraph

I am going to ask you some questions about your offending and/or risky behaviour, and also about your thoughts on treatment. There are no right or wrong answers. But the more you can tell me the better. I will give you some prompts if you can't think of what to say.

Item		Score		
A	Insight into risk behaviour and/or offending behaviours			
	<i>Present Oriented Items</i>			
1	Do you do any offences / behaviours that could cause problems or get you in trouble now? Explain.	0	1	2
2	Do you need to be in this service now? Explain.	0	1	2
3	What offences / behaviour might you do now that could cause problems or get you into trouble?	0	1	2
4	What might make you more likely to do offences / behaviours that could cause problems or get you in trouble now (in this service)? (e.g. External/Internal/Interpersonal/contextual factors)	0	1	2
	<i>Past Oriented items</i>			
5	Has your offending / behaviour caused problems in the past? Explain.	0	1	2

6	What things led to you to do your offences / behaviours? (e.g. External/Internal/Interpersonal/contextual factors)	0	1	2
<i>Future Oriented Items</i>				
7	(When you move on from here) Is there a chance you might do offences / behaviours that cause problems or get you in trouble again?	0	1	2
8	What might make you more likely to do offences/behaviours that cause problems or get you in trouble in the future? (e.g. External/Internal/Interpersonal/contextual factors)	0	1	2
B	Insight into the need for treatment			
<i>Past Oriented</i>				
9	When you first came to this service, did you need treatment to stop doing offences / behaviours that caused problems? Explain.	0	1	2
<i>Present Oriented</i>				
10	What skills have you learned/got now to stop you doing offences / behaviours that cause problems?	0	1	2
11	How good are you at using your skills when you need them?	0	1	2

12	Can treatment help to stop you doing offences / behaviours that cause problems? Explain.	0	1	2
<i>Future Oriented</i>				
13	(When you move on from here) Will you have to keep practicing your skills to keep out of trouble in the future? Explain why?	0	1	2
14	Will you carry on using the skills you have learned in the future? Explain why.	0	1	2

Scoring Form

Scale	Temporal Domain	Attained Scores	Maximum Score
A: Insight into behaviour	Present		8
	Past		4
	Future		4
A	Total		16
B: Insight into need for treatment	Past		2
	Present		6
	Future		4
B	Total		12
A&B	Total		28

The scale may be used without explicit permission. However, the authors would like to be kept informed of its use:

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Reference:

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