



## Meeting minutes

### **Annual meeting of the IAFMHS *Special Interest Group on Risk Assessment and Management***

#### **RISC-TEAM**

Risk Information, Support, and Communication--Toward Effective Assessment and Treatment

Date: Tuesday, 16 June 2015  
Location: Senate Suite, Mercure Manchester Piccadilly Hotel  
Time: 17:00-18:00

Chair: Stephanie Penney

In attendance:

Beskers	Franka
Chaimowitz	Gary
Costi	Tiziana
Cruise	Keith
de Beuf	Tamara
de Vogel	Vivienne
de Vries Robbe	Michael
Douglas	Kevin
Goossens	Ilvy
Layden	Brianne
Moyle	Rob
Nicholls	Tonia
Prat	Sebastien
van Dongen	Sanne
Wilson	Nicola

#### 1. Welcome, introductions, and updates on members' interests

- Michelle Collins has completed an up-to-date list of all RISC Team members, including email addresses and clinical/research interests. We will make this list available either through the creation of a new listserv (see point 4, below) or another secure portal.
- Prominent themes that arose in the clinical and research interests of those who attended the meeting this year were:

- i. The effective translation of risk assessment findings into tribunal hearings and treatment plans
  - ii. Implementation of violence risk assessment tools across different clinical settings, and the effective uptake of structured professional/actuarial tools into practice
  - iii. Rises in school/campus violence, including sexual violence, and the need for effective risk assessment tools and training for these settings
2. Review of the goals and purpose of the RISC Team (see *Purpose and Terms of Reference*, below)
3. Updates on the IAFMHS Newsletter
  - Rather than have a RISC Team specific newsletter, it was agreed that the RISC group (and all SIG's) should be encouraged to funnel into an overall IAFMHS newsletter. Stephanie Penney will liaise with Kaitlyn McLachlan, who will be taking the lead in updating the overall IAFMHS newsletter.
4. RISC Team Listserve
  - There was discussion about creating a RISC Team listserv, using a software platform such as Sharepoint or LinkedIn. This listserv could relay relevant group information such as information on training programs, student exchanges, funding opportunities, journal special issues and calls for papers, etc. Please contact Stephanie at [Stephanie.penney@camh.ca](mailto:Stephanie.penney@camh.ca) if you are interested in assisting with this task (e.g., beginning to collate the relevant information for a listserv dedicated to these types of opportunities, as well as providing periodic updates).
  - It was noted that we could model the information provided on the American Psychology-Law Society website (<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-41/index.aspx>), but tailored towards international researchers, clinicians, and students.
  - Having students representing specific countries would aid in documenting specific training requirements or funding restrictions associated with citizenship in specific countries; please be in touch if you are interested in serving as a country rep to provide some of this information.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the RISC-Team is to promote interest, understanding, best practice and support in all aspects of violence risk assessment and management. The RISC-Team is a resource for all disciplines involved in such activities – lawyers and administrators, as well as psychologists, psychiatrists, nurses, social workers, and other involved professionals. It aims to be an international resource on violence risk assessment and management.

Specific aims include:

- To provide an international forum for professionals interested in issues related to clinical risk assessment and management, specifically with respect to clinical practice, research and policy/administration. The essence of the group is to offer colleagues an opportunity to exchange opinions on legal, methodological, and clinical matters and to offer advice or support from the perspective of similar organizations.
- To discuss standards for clinical and research practice.
- To ensure the knowledge is kept up-to-date, organized, and available to members and, perhaps in due course, to non-members.
- To ensure that information about risk assessment and management is conveyed accurately and responsibly via training workshops and the like.

## **Terms of Reference for the RISC-Team (from July 2008)**

The following terms of reference are proposed for the membership of the RISC-Team. Terms of reference will always be open to amendment in order that the RISC-Team reflects the interests and aspirations of its membership.

- The RISC-Team will reflect the interests of the diverse professional membership of the IAFMHS.
- The combined knowledge and experience of the RISC-Team will be available to its membership as a resource on matters related to risk assessment and management, specifically relating to clinical practice, research, education, and policy and administration.
- The RISC-Team will create opportunities for collaboration across institutions and jurisdictions in the conduct of research and training.
- The RISC-Team will be a source of information for the IAFMHS membership on issues pertaining to risk assessment and management in forensic mental health settings.
- The RISC-Team will offer standards and guidelines for good practice in key tasks of risk assessment and management in forensic mental health settings.