

Criteria for using the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) and Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (DVRAG)

CRITERIA	ODARA	DVRAG
Person to be assessed	<p>An adult man who has assaulted a woman who is or was his intimate partner</p> <p>May also be used to assess an adult woman who has assaulted a man who is or was her intimate partner. “Assault on index victim when pregnant” is scored 0.</p> <p>Cis-gendered adults (pending further validations)</p>	
Index assault	<p>Physical assault including physical contact with the partner or a credible threat of death with a weapon in hand in the presence of the partner, and the assault has been reported to police (whether or not criminal charges have been incurred)</p>	
	<p>If using the ODARA only to support a partner who has been assaulted (i.e., no criminal justice involvement), the index assault need not have been reported to police. All the usual scoring criteria apply.</p>	
Selection of index assault	<p>The most recent occurrence that meets the index assault criteria</p> <p>If the most recent occurrence on record does not meet the index assault criteria, a previous incident in which the criteria were met can be used.</p> <p>If more than one criterion-meeting assault occurred within a 24 hour period and were reported to police at the same time, all assaults within the 24 hour period are included in the index assault.</p>	
Information sources	<p>Police record and criminal history needed. Victim and witness statements within the police report preferred.</p> <p>If using the ODARA only to support a partner who has been assaulted (i.e., no criminal justice involvement), ODARA can be scored based on partner interview alone. Supplementing partner interview with official reports is preferred.</p>	<p>Police record, criminal history, and forensic, clinical, or correctional assessment information sufficient for scoring the Psychopathy Checklist – Revised (PCL-R: Hare, 2003) or PCL-R Facet 4</p>
Population to which norms apply	<p>Men who committed an index assault that appeared in police records</p>	<p>Men who committed an index assault that appeared in police records and for whom in-depth case information is obtained during probation, parole, or corrections or forensic incarceration for any offense</p>
When to use	<p>Whenever sufficient information is available</p>	<p>Whenever a reliable PCL-R score is available (or PCL-R Facet 4 score for DVRAG-4) and, if the ODARA has been scored, the ODARA is at least 2</p>

Note. Adapted from Hilton, N. Z. (2021). *Domestic violence risk assessment: Tools for effective prediction and management, 2nd edition.* American Psychological Association, Table 11.1, pp. 145-149, and pp. 248-252.