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PATIENT IDENTIFICATION

**ASSAULT AND VIOLENCE ASSESSMENT TOOL**

**DIRECTIONS:** (a) Assess each key factor; (b) Circle one [of three] descriptors for each factor best describing patient; and (c) Add circled items to sum total score.

| Key Factors                                      | High Risk - 2 POINTS  | Moderate Risk - 1 POINT   | No Precautions - 0 POINTS   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>HISTORY OF VIOLENCE</b>                       | Any single episode of violence with injury to others while hospitalized <b>-OR-</b> Multiple assaults with injury while outside hospital <b>2</b> | Destruction of property without injury to others while hospitalized <b>-OR-</b> A single assault outside the hospital resulting in injury <b>-OR-</b> Multiple assaults outside the hospital not resulting in injury <b>1</b> | Violence only when using drugs or alcohol <b>-OR-</b> Destruction of property outside the hospital <b>-OR-</b> No history of violence. <b>0</b>                         |
| <b>HISTORY OF RECENT AGGRESSION</b>              | Physically threatening at time of referral/admission <b>2</b>   | Verbally threatening at time of referral/admission <b>1</b>   | Nonthreatening at time of referral/admission <b>0</b>   |
| <b>HISTORY OF AGGRESSION IN FAMILY OR ORIGIN</b> | Victim or perpetrator of physical or sexual abuse <b>2</b>  | Witness of physical or sexual abuse <b>1</b>  | Witness or victim of verbal aggression <b>-OR-</b> No history of aggression in family <b>0</b>  |
| <b>SUBSTANCE ABUSE STATUS</b>                    | Recent alcohol/substance abuse activity detoxing <b>-OR-</b> Currently under the influence of alcohol or drugs <b>2</b>                           | Recent substance/alcohol abuse with absence of withdrawal symptoms <b>1</b>   | Rehabilitated abuser <b>-OR-</b> No history of alcohol/substance abuse <b>-OR-</b> Past history (>3 months ago) alcohol/substance abuse with no rehabilitation <b>0</b> |
| <b>PARANOIA / HOSTILITY</b>                      | Paranoia or hostility generalized to people in the immediate environment <b>2</b>   | Paranoia or hostility generalized toward inaccessible people <b>1</b>   | No apparent paranoia<br>No apparent hostility <b>0</b>  |
| <b>IMPULSITIVITY</b>                             | Physically impulsive <b>2</b>   | Verbally impulsive <b>-OR-</b> History of physical impulsivity <b>1</b>   | No apparent impulsivity <b>0</b>  |
| <b>AGITATION</b>                                 | Psychomotor agitation with constant pressured physical activity <b>2</b>  | Psychomotor agitation with intermittent bursts of hyperactivity <b>1</b>  | No apparent psychomotor agitation <b>0</b>  |
| <b>SENSORIUM</b>                                 | Disoriented with impaired memory <b>2</b>   | Oriented with impaired memory <b>1</b>  | Oriented with intact memory <b>0</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL SCORE</b>                               | 9 or more = High-risk precautions   | 3 to 8 = Moderate-risk precautions  | 0 to 2 = No precautions   |

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Assessed by (RN): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

ASSAULT and VIOLENCE ASSESSMENT TOOL (Courtesy of Psychiatric Nursing, Institute of Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina).