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PA Child Welfare Resource Center

1300: Pennsylvania Risk Assessment: A Closer Look at the Factors and Summary: Booster Shot

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

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Competency

- 204-3: The child welfare professional knows how to use the risk assessment instrument.

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Learning Objectives

- Create an understanding of risk assessment
- Assist participants in making less subjective judgments about their families and the risks to their children
- Understand how to relate 15 risk factors to the allegations and information received during an investigation or during ongoing services
- Analyze the dynamics of a family by using the risk factors to document the importance of how the risk levels assigned relate to the safety of a child
- Understand how the interaction of factors impacts the level of risk
- Demonstrate the ability to write an effective summary
- Understand how to analyze the dynamics of a family and document their ratings on the matrix
- Write an effective risk summary

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Agenda

- I. Introduction
- II. Clarification and Classification of Risk Factors
- III. Overall Severity and Overall Risk
- IV. Techniques for Insuring Risk Assessment Ratings are Supported by the Summary
- V. Writing Assessment Summaries
- VI. Closing

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Pennsylvania Model Risk Assessment Form

PENNSYLVANIA MODEL RISK ASSESSMENT FORM				
ASSESSMENT CODES: Z - NO RISK L - LOW RISK M - MODERATE RISK H - HIGH RISK X - UNABLE TO ASSESS				
CASE NAME:		CASE #		
A. CHILD FACTORS	NAME:			HIGHEST RISK FACTOR
	AGE:			
1. VULNERABILITY				
2. SEVERED AND/OR RECESSION OF ABUSE/NEGLECT				
3. PRIOR ABUSE/NEGLECT				
4. EXTENT OF EMOTIONAL BARRI				

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Pennsylvania Model Risk Assessment Form, Cont'd

B. CARETAKER, HOUSEHOLD MEMBER, PERPETRATOR	NAME:			HIGHEST RISK FACTOR
	AGE:			
C. AGE, PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL OR EMOTIONAL STATUS				
D. COOPERATION				
E. PARENTING SKILLS KNOWLEDGE				
F. ALCOHOL/DRUG/ABUSE				
G. ACCESS TO CHILDREN				
H. PRIOR ABUSE/NEGLECT				
I. RELATIONSHIP WITH CHILDREN				

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Pennsylvania Model Risk Assessment Form, Cont'd

C. FAMILY ENVIRONMENT		D. PLEASE USE BACK OF PAGE FOR NARRATIVE	RISK FACTOR
12. FAMILY VIOLENCE			
13. COMPOSITION OF THE HOME			
14. FAMILY SUPPORTS			
15. STRESSORS			
WORKER	DATE	OVERALL SEVERITY	
SUPERVISOR	DATE	OVERALL RISK	

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Risk Assessment Summary Checklist

- ☐ Have you explained the overall risk level, why you rated it the level you did, and provided specific facts or rationale for your decision?
- ☐ Have you explained the overall severity level, why you rated it the level you did, and provided specific facts or rationale for your decision?
- ☐ Have you explained the reasons for all of the X ratings you chose on the assessment?
- ☐ Have you named all the household members and discussed their age and relationship to the identified child(ren)?

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