How to Use the Sex Offender Treatment Intervention and Progress Scale (SOTIPS)

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The Sex Offender Treatment Intervention and Progress Scale (SOTIPS) is a statistically derived, provider-administered, dynamic measure designed to aid clinicians and probation and parole officers in assessing risk, treatment and supervision needs, and progress among adult male sex offenders. Clients are scored on 16 dynamic risk factors at intake and thereafter every six months on a 4-point scale ranging from minimal to no need for improvement to very considerable need for improvement. The SOTIPS assessment scheme includes its use with a static risk measure such as the Static-99R or VASOR-2.

The workshop will be divided into two parts. First, we will briefly review the theoretical basis for and psychometric properties of the scale. Second, we will use the majority of the workshop to illustrate and have participants practice how to score and use the instrument for treatment, supervision, and case management purposes. Participants will receive a copy of the SOTIPS Scoring Manual.

The empirical basis for the SOTIPS has been set out in McGrath, Lasher, and Cumming (2011, 2012). These studies found that SOTIPS scores at 1, 7 and 13 months after beginning treatment showed moderate predictive accuracy for sexual, violent, any recidivism, and return to prison at fixed 1- and 3-year follow-up periods. AUCs for combined SOTIPS and Static-99R scores for all recidivism events were between .67 and .89 and outperformed either instrument alone when both instruments had similar predictive power. Participants who demonstrated treatment progress, as reflected by reductions in SOTIPS scores, showed lower rates of recidivism than those who did not.
