**POSTER**

**Construct and Predictive Validity the Violence Risk Scale: Sex Offender Version**

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The process of risk assessment with sexual offenders has evolved significantly since its inception and currently, there is recognition of the importance of incorporating factors that are predictive of risk and that can change. Dynamic risk assessment focuses on risk factors that are able to be altered through successful completion of treatment. However, the field is still not certain how to integrate change in treatment into risk estimates for future recidivism. Very few risk assessment tools exist that incorporate static risk factors, dynamic risk factors and a method of evaluating the change process. The Violence Risk Scale: Sex Offender Version is a comprehensive actuarial risk assessment tool designed to measure risk of recidivism among sexual offenders. The unique feature of the VRS: SO is that it incorporates changes that occur during treatment in the level of commitment to making behavioral change in the risk score. It is comprised of 7 static risk factors and 17 dynamic risk factors with protocols for measuring treatment change based on the Transtheoretical Change Model. To date, there has been limited research examining the psychometric properties of the VRS: SO and by examiners other than the developers. Therefore the aim of the current study is to evaluate the construct and predictive validity of the VRS: SO using an independent sample of 420 sex offenders who received a prison-based treatment program in Kentucky.