
The Haina Seminars of Forensic Mental Health present:

START Short-Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability

Giessen / Germany,

Wednesday, 27 & Thursday, 28 February 2013

The *Short-Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability* (**START**; Webster, Martin, Brink, Nicholls, & Desmaris, 2009) is a 20-item clinical guide for the dynamic assessment of seven risk domains (violence to others, suicide, self-harm, self-neglect, unauthorized absence, substance use, and victimization).

The **START** represents a refinement in the assessment of dynamic risk factors in that it provides for the differential coding of both patient strengths and needs, while allowing for the recording of case-specific risk factors.

START is a structured professional judgement measure that guides the assessment and management of short-term risk (i.e., over weeks to months) for violence, suicide, self-harm, victimization, substance abuse, unauthorized absence, and self-neglect. **START** provides a framework for balancing prediction and practice goals of risk assessment, and its use in practice will not only optimize the accuracy of risk assessments, but also will offer guidance regarding case management and clinical intervention.

START guides a multi-faceted, idiographic assessment of short-term risks associated with mental, substance use, and personality disorders. In contrast with existing instruments that comprise either risk or protective factors for single outcomes, the **START** incorporates both client strengths and vulnerabilities in one comprehensive assessment of risk across multiple domains. Designed primarily as a clinical assessment and treatment-planning guide, **START** also may inform administrative tasks, such as identification of treatment needs, monitoring of patient progress, and service-wide surveillance. **START** was recently identified as a promising new instrument for assessing risk for aggression in psychiatric inpatient settings (Daffern, 2007), as well as a tool for supporting best practice in managing violence and related risks (Department of Health, 2007).

The **START** is meant for interdisciplinary use and each of the 20 items is assessed according to succinct descriptions provided in the published manual.

SCHEDULE

Day 1: February 27, 2013		Day 2: February 28, 2013	
		08.30–08:45	Review of Schedule & Objectives
		08:45–09:45	START: Research Evidence, Implementation Successes, & Future Directions
9.30–09:45	Introduction Review of Schedule	09:45–10:00	Case Coding – Bobby <i>Large Group Discussion</i>
09:45–10:15	The Vision of START: Integrating Strengths and Vulnerabilities into Risk Assessment and Risk Management	10:00–10:15	Refreshment Break
10:15–11:00	START Summary Sheet Overview	10:15–12:00	Case Coding – Bobby <i>Large Group Discussion</i>
11:00–11:15	Refreshment Break	12:00–13:00	Lunch Break
11:15–12:00	START Item Descriptions	13:00–14:00	In-Depth Case Study – Joe Blogs <i>Large Group Discussions</i>
12:00–13:00	Lunch Break	14:00–14:15	Refreshment Break
13:00–14:00	START Item Descriptions, Signature Risk Signs & THREAT - Continued	15:15–15:45	In-Depth Case Study – Joe Blogs <i>Large Group Discussions</i>
14:00–14:15	Specific Risk Estimates	15:45–16:00	Logistical Issues and Linking START with Treatment and Risk Management
14:15–15:30	Case Study – Mr V. <i>Large Group Discussion</i>		
15:30–15:45	Refreshment Break		
15:45–16:45	Case Study Mr V. continued <i>Large Group Discussion</i>		
16:45–17:00	Closing Comments/ Q & A <i>Group Discussion</i>		

OBJECTIVES

The **START** is intended for use with adults with mental, personality and substance related disorders. It is relevant to inpatient and community psychiatric, forensic, and correctional populations.

This workshop will provide training in the Short-Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability (**START**: Webster, Martin, Brink, Nicholls, & Middleton, 2004; Webster Martin, Brink, Nicholls & Desmarais, 2009), a structured professional clinical guide for the dynamic assessment of seven risk domains (violence, suicide, self-harm, victimization, substance use, unauthorised leave, and self-neglect).

The **START** is intended for use alongside other structured risk assessment devices such as the HCR-20.

START is a structured clinical judgement measure that conforms to and meets the standards of the Department of Health 2007 guidelines on 'Best Practice in Managing Risk'. **START** has been recognized as a Leading Practice by Accreditation Canada.

The **START** provides a distinct opportunity to involve patient strengths as well as vulnerabilities in the development of risk management plans. The workshop will focus on how **START** can inform decision-making when used with patients in correctional, civil and forensic mental health settings.

TARGET GROUPS

This inter-disciplinary workshop is designed to acquaint professionals with the dynamic assessment of multiple overlapping risks.

- Practitioners (e.g. nurses, social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists) and administrators with a working familiarity of structured professional risk assessment schemes e.g. HCR-20, RSVP.
- Experienced practitioners who are expected to lead or contribute significantly to the implementation of risk management systems.

TRAINER



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University of British Columbia

Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology,
Simon Fraser University

Senior Research Fellow,
Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission,
BC Mental Health & Addiction Services

VENUE

Vitos Haina Forensic Psychiatric Hospital, Giessen Site, Licher Strasse 106, 35394 Giessen/Germany.

Giessen is situated 60 km north of Frankfurt. Frankfurt Airport can be reached from a large number of European Cities. Easy public transport to Giessen does exist. Via Frankfurt Central Station Giessen is connected to the European High Speed Train Network.

COURSE FEE

The **fee of 400 €** includes lunch and refreshments. **An EARLY BIRD FEE of 350 € applies if your registration and money arrive here before January 15, 2013.**

CANCELLATION POLICY

By you: Cancellations before 15th January 2013 are subject to a 50 € charge. There will be no refund given for cancellations after 15th January 2013. However, we are happy to accept a substitute delegate. Cancellations must be received in writing.

By us: The Vitos Haina Forensic Psychiatric Hospital and the Haina Institute of Forensic Psychiatry reserve the right to cancel an event at their sole discretion. In case of such a cancellation we will refund the value of the booking. We expressly exclude any liability for any direct or indirect losses or damages howsoever arising as a result of such cancellation and will not, for example, be responsible for any travel or accommodation costs incurred. In the event of cancellation, we will use reasonable endeavours to publicise the cancellation and details will be posted on the website associated with the event. Attendees are responsible for checking this information prior to the event. Wherever possible, we will endeavour to contact delegates by email in the event of cancellation.

CLOSING DATE

The number of places in this training workshop is limited. Consequently, early registration is recommended. Closing date for application will be February 15, 2013. Your registration is not valid until the registration fee has arrived in our bank account. All reservations will be confirmed in writing (Email).

TRANSFER

Please transfer **400 €** (**350 €** before January 15, 2013) to

IFPH e. V.

Volksbank Mittelhessen

Account #: 18 11 75 09

BLZ: 513 900 00

IBAN: **DE88 5139 0000 0018 1175 09**

BIC: VBMHDE5F

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REGISTRATION FORM

START

Please fax this registration form to: +49 641 4995 116
Bitte senden Sie Ihre Anmeldung an: 0 641 4995 116

Title

First Name

Surname

Affiliation

Street-Address / PO Box

City, Postcode, Country

phone

fax

(_____ @ _____)

Email address

(Make sure it is readable. We will only contact you by Email)

Signature

Date
