



OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY

Policy Statement

Part II – Youth Services (Facilities)



Subject

Sex Offender Risk Assessment [Facility]

Section – Policy Number:

E: Programming – 5.0

Supersedes:

II-E-5.0 (10/05)

Effective Date:

11/19/2007

Date of Last

Review/Revision:

None

Related Standards and References:

- ORS [419C.486](#) (Consideration of recommendations of committing court; case planning)
- ORS [420A.125](#) (Youth offenders; intake assessments; reformation plan; placement)
- The *ERASOR* (Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism)
- Matrix: Use of *ERASOR* for Offenders Placed in Close Custody Facilities
- OYA policy: [II-E-1.8](#) (Case Planning)
III-C-3.0 (Sex Offender Risk Assessment [Field])
- OYA forms: [YA 3002](#) - (J) Case Plan Report - MDT Field

Related Procedures:

- None

Interpretation:

Treatment Services

Approved:

Robert S. Jester, Director

I. PURPOSE:

This policy provides guidelines for assessing OYA offenders (placed in close custody facilities) who received formal court action for a sex crime to identify their risks, needs, strengths, and available interventions.

Refer to OYA policy III-C-3.0 (Sex Offender Risk Assessment [Field]) regarding offenders placed in OYA community placements.

II. POLICY DEFINITIONS:

Case Plan: A Case Plan is a formal plan with prescribed interventions and documentation requirements and is a tool to assist staff in managing cases, setting goals and reviewing offenders' interventions and progress. A Case Plan constitutes and fulfills the requirements of the Reformation Plan as defined in ORS 420A.005, 420A.125 and 420A.010 and is created and maintained in the statewide Juvenile Justice Information System, JJIS.

ERASOR: The Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism (*ERASOR*) is an empirically-guided checklist designed to assist evaluators to estimate the short-term risk of a sexual reoffense for youth aged 12 up to and including 18 years. The *ERASOR* provides objective coding instructions for 25 risk factors (16 dynamic and 9 static). The OYA continues to assess offenders beyond 18 years of age with the *ERASOR* for historical tracking.

Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS): The Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) is a statewide-integrated electronic information system designed, developed, and implemented to support a continuum of services and shared responsibility among all members of the juvenile justice community. In a collaborative partnership between the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and Oregon's county juvenile departments, JJIS is administered by the State of Oregon through OYA.

III. **POLICY:**

The OYA's objective is to protect the public by ensuring offender accountability, promoting change, developing/improving skills, and reducing the likelihood that offenders will commit more crime.

Adolescent sex offender risk assessment attempts to describe factors likely to increase and decrease occurrence of a specified behavior. Adolescent sex offender risk assessment is not a prediction but rather an attempt to conceptualize the danger to reoffend by examining the potential magnitude of the harm, the probability that harm will occur, the frequency with which the harm will occur, and the imminence of the harm.

In addition to treatment planning, one of the goals of a comprehensive adolescent sexual assessment is to make a determination regarding the risk of future sexual offenses.

The OYA will conduct an adolescent sex offender risk assessment (using the *ERASOR*) for all offenders who received formal court action for a sex crime and are committed to the custody of the OYA, or placed by DOC in the physical custody of OYA, to identify their risks, needs, strengths, and available interventions. The identification of areas of risk is one of the first steps in case plan development. The *ERASOR* will be completed as specified in this policy and OYA protocols for workflow related to case planning.

The *ERASOR* will be conducted only by approved and trained staff.

Proper administration of the *ERASOR* depends on obtaining data from multiple sources including interviews with the offender, offender family members and/or caretakers, mental health professionals familiar with the offender, teachers, and others. Psychological tests, behavioral observation, record review, and data collected on static and dynamic variables are included.

Final risk estimates are subjectively derived and based on clinical judgment. Generally, the more high-risk indicators will yield a higher risk index. However,

presence of a single risk factor may yield a high risk index, such as a stated intention to reoffend.

IV. GENERAL STANDARDS:

A. Assessment eligibility

An offender committed to an OYA close custody facility will be assessed with the *ERASOR* if the offender was:

1. adjudicated for, or convicted of, a sex crime¹; or
2. referred for a sex crime but adjudicated for, or convicted of, a non-sex crime, **and** the court made an acknowledgement or finding that there was sexual activity involved in the crime.

B. Initial Assessment

The *ERASOR* sex offender risk assessment is part of offender treatment planning and placement strategies. The *ERASOR* is administered in conjunction with other assessments to determine placement and case planning.

1. In addition to the other assessments required upon admission to a close custody facility, all eligible offenders will be assessed using the *ERASOR*.
2. The *ERASOR* will be administered as soon as practical to allow for development of the initial case plan within 30 days of initial admission to an OYA youth correctional facility.
3. The *ERASOR* will be administered by approved and trained staff including, but not limited to, Treatment Managers, Qualified Mental Health Professionals (QMHPs), contracted mental health professionals, and Youth Corrections Unit Coordinators (YCUCs).
4. Offenders who have been assessed with an *ERASOR* within six months prior to intake are not required to have another at intake.

A copy of the assessment should be obtained, placed in the case file, and the *ERASOR* Summary Sheet with narrative recorded in the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS).

C. Guidelines for Reassessment

ERASOR assessment findings should be viewed as time-limited. *ERASOR* reassessments will occur according to the following guidelines:

1. at least annually;

2. within six months prior to an offender's transition into the community; and
3. upon recommendation from the offender's Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) following significant changes in one or more risk factors.

D. Recording the results of the *ERASOR* Assessment in JJIS

1. The results of any *ERASOR* assessment conducted in accordance with this policy will be recorded in JJIS.
2. Each facility will designate staff to record the *ERASOR* results in JJIS.

V. LOCAL OPERATING PROCEDURE REQUIRED: NO

¹ Offenders were adjudicated for (or convicted of) the following crimes are subject to *ERASOR* assessments:

- Rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration or sexual abuse in any degree;
- Incest with a child victim;
- Using a child in a display of sexually explicit conduct;
- Encouraging child sexual abuse in any degree;
- Transporting child pornography into the state;
- Paying for viewing a child's sexually explicit conduct;
- Compelling or promoting prostitution;
- Kidnapping in the first degree if the victim was under 18 years of age;
- Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor;
- Sexual misconduct;
- Possession of materials depicting sexually explicit conduct of a child in the first degree;
- Kidnapping in the second degree if the victim was under 18 years of age, except by a parent or by a person found to be within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court;
- Burglary, when committed with intent to commit any of the offenses listed above;
- Public or private indecency;
- Harassment, touch intimate part;
- Any attempt to commit any of the offenses listed above.