**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 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; Worling & Curwen, 2001) is an empirically-guided checklist designed to assist evaluators to estimate the short-term risk of a sexual re-offense 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), and is designed to assess a youth’s risk/needs for a period of six months. Factors considered in the ERASOR should be reassessed periodically to evaluate changes in the areas of short-term risk and treatment needs. 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.

Multidisciplinary Team (MDT): A team of individuals who work collaboratively to develop and maintain a comprehensive individualized case plan that is culturally competent and gender-specific for each offender committed to the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA). The MDT is based on a core team membership consisting of the offender, OYA primary case manager, placement representative, QMHP (facility)/treatment provider (community), tribal representative (for offenders enrolled in one of Oregon's federally recognized tribes) and the parents/guardians. Additional team members are fluid and are identified by the core team based on the offender’s Risk Needs Assessment, identified criminogenic needs and placement.

III. POLICY:

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 assessments attempt to describe factors likely to increase and decrease occurrence of a specified behavior. There are currently no empirically-validated instruments for assessing the risk of adolescent sexual reoffending. 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 OYA custody or placed by the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) in the physical custody of OYA, to identify their risks, needs, strengths, and available interventions. The identification of areas of risk/treatment need is one of the first steps in case plan development. The ERASOR must be completed as specified in this policy and OYA protocols for workflow related to case planning.

The ERASOR must be conducted only by approved and trained staff or contracted providers.

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 familiar with the offender. Psychological tests, behavioral observation, record review, and data collected on static and dynamic variables are included. Information collected solely from offender interviews or a file review is not sufficient to properly administer the ERASOR.

Final risk estimates (high, moderate, and low) 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 credible stated intention to reoffend.

The results of an ERASOR must not be the sole determining factor in offender case planning decisions such as placement, custody termination, or parole. The ERASOR results must be used by an offender's Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) along with all other available assessments and information to determine the offender's current, short-term risks and treatment needs.

IV. GENERAL STANDARDS:

A. Assessment eligibility

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

1. adjudicated for, or convicted of, a sex crime\(^1\); 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 used by the MDT as part of offender treatment planning and placement strategies. The ERASOR is administered in conjunction with other assessments to determine placement and short-term goals to address any immediate treatment needs.

1. Staff must ensure all eligible offenders are assessed using the ERASOR in addition to other assessments required upon admission to a close-custody facility.

2. The ERASOR must be administered within 30 days of an offender's initial admission to an OYA facility before the offender's initial MDT meeting. The MDT must consider the ERASOR results along with all other relevant offender information and assessments.

3. The ERASOR must 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.

Staff must obtain a copy of the assessment (if possible), file it in the youth offender's case file, and record the ERASOR Summary Sheet with narrative in the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS). This allows the MDT to evaluate the offender's risk/needs changes.

C. Guidelines for Reassessment

ERASOR assessment findings are time-limited. ERASOR reassessments must occur according to the following guidelines:

1. At least annually;

2. Within six months prior to an offender's transition into the community (residential placement, foster care, a family member's home, or independent living) to compare against data from previous ERASOR assessments; and

3. Upon recommendation from the offender's MDT following significant changes in one or more risk factors.

D. Recording the results of the ERASOR Assessment in JJIS

1. Staff must record the assessment narrative and results of any ERASOR assessment conducted in accordance with this policy in JJIS.

2. Each facility must designate staff to record the ERASOR narrative and 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;
- Sexual assault of an animal;
- 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.