

Risk Level Definitions and Quick Reference Chart

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Instructions

Risk level definitions include harm that may occur for a variety of reasons, including injury or loss resulting from an individual's informed choice. The chart below helps you determine the appropriate risk level and select the corresponding risk categories when conducting a risk assessment in Oregon ACCESS.

Definitions

The definitions below include harm for various reasons including risks due to the informed choice(s) of the individual. The definitions below exclude issues such as weather/natural disasters and power outage concerns, which will be captured separately.

High risk: An identified concern, that without mitigation, is likely to cause the individual to experience substantial injury or loss within the next 30 days or the individual has experienced substantial harm within the previous 30 days, and the harm will likely recur without mitigation.

- **Substantial injury or loss means:** Urgent medical (hospital, Emergency room, Dr. office) intervention necessary to treat the injury or prevent significant health deterioration or loss of functioning, and/or, law enforcement involvement, loss of housing or financial loss exceeding \$2,000.

Medium (or moderate) risk: An identified concern, that without mitigation, is likely to cause the individual to experience minor injury or loss within the next 90 days or has experienced minor loss in the previous 30 days that will likely recur or worsen without mitigation.

- **Minor injury or less means:** Medical intervention is not needed (natural support, home remedy/over the counter, or time heals), housing is secure, and/or financial losses would be \$2,000 or less.

Low risk: An identified concern, that without mitigation, may result in harm. The risk of harm to the individual is not imminent nor likely to occur within 90 days, and/or harm has occurred within the last 30 days, has been mitigated, and is unlikely to recur within 90 days.

No risk: There are no identified concerns, and no harm is likely to occur within 90 days, and there has been no harm in the previous 30 days.

- **Harm means:** Injury or loss of any severity.

Note: Risk definitions do not include events such as power outages, natural disasters or extreme weather. Information may be pulled from the CAPS 2 Emergency Concerns Report.

Risk level definitions – quick reference chart

Risk Level	Predicted Outcome	30-Day Lookback	Harm Intervention
High Risk	Identified concern that without mitigation will likely cause substantial injury or loss within the next 30 days.	Individual experienced substantial harm in past 30 days, harm will likely reoccur without mitigation.	Urgent intervention required to treat or prevent significant deterioration or loss of functioning and/or law enforcement response, loss of housing, or financial loss over \$2,000.
Medium Risk	Identified concerns without mitigation may likely cause minor injury or loss within 90 days.	Experienced minor injury or loss within past 30 days. Will reoccur or worsen if not mitigated.	Minor non-medical intervention addressed through support, home remedies, etc.; housing remains secure; financial loss is \$2,000 or less.
Low Risk	Identified concern without mitigation may result in harm. Risk of harm is not imminent or likely within next 90 days.	Harm occurred within last 30 days but is mitigated and unlikely to occur within next 90 days.	Risk concerns and mitigation efforts are addressed successfully and are monitored.
No Risk	No identified concerns and no harm likely to occur within next 90 days.	No harm in previous 30 days.	None.

Helpful tips

- If an individual is rated “high risk” in both predicted outcome and harm intervention, they must be classified as “high risk” overall. In these cases,

monthly case manager risk contacts are required, even if the 30-day look back period has not been fully met.

- Staff must use their professional judgment when determining high risk related to financial or material loss.
- “No risk” should rarely be assigned for individuals assessed at a nursing facility level of care (SPL 1–13). Even when risks are mitigated through services or supports, some level of risk typically remains. “No risk” may be appropriate only for highly independent individuals receiving EWE or SPPC services. In most situations, “low risk” is the more appropriate designation, particularly when services support housing stability or other ongoing needs.
- Power outage/natural disasters – continue to assess as in the past. If marked high risk, this will not show up on the “high risk” report for monitoring purposes. The information will appear in the CAPS 2 Emergency Concerns report.

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