

POSTER

Validation and Extension of the Static-99

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As predatory sex offender statutes continue to be adjudicated at an increasing rate in the criminal justice system, the growing field of sex offender specific risk assessment should be supported by current studies and reviews to clarify the utility and limits of risk assessment procedures. Many studies have noted deviant sexual arousal to be a strong predictor of sexual recidivism and is often a target of sexual offender treatment as a risk factor that can be changed over time with treatment. Adding this important, empirically supported dynamic risk factor to the static, actuarial-based Static-99 suggests increased ability to identify which sex offenders will offend. As more programs are developed to cope with the growing multitude of individuals who are registered sex offenders, validation in a community setting is also crucial for the risk assessment measures to be used appropriately. Much of the data collected and used to validate current risk measures are from one expansive data set, which limits the generalizability and utility of the measures.

The present study attempts to find predictive validity for the Static-99 using a community sample as well as improve the predictive quality of the measure with the addition of deviant sexual arousal as measured by the penile plethysmograph (PPG). Records for clients presenting for psychosexual evaluations at a community sex offender treatment facility were examined to obtain demographic data, PPG evaluation results, and information to score the Static-99. Recidivism data for these participants was also obtained from the Oregon Department of Corrections. Data were examined using logistic regression to determine the validity of the Static-99 with a community population and incremental validity of adding PPG information to the Static-99. Results and future directions will be discussed.