

ODARA 101

Bibliography

The information contained in ODARA 101 is most fully described in the [book](#):

Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., & Rice, M.E. (2010). *Risk assessment for domestically violent men: Tools for criminal justice, offender intervention, and victim services*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association

Evaluation of ODARA 101

Hilton, N. Z., & Ham, E. (2015). Cost-effectiveness of electronic training in domestic violence risk assessment: ODARA 101. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 30, 1065-1073, doi: [10.1177/0886260514539762](https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260514539762)

Articles referred to in ODARA 101

Buchanan, K. (2009). *Risk assessment and spousal violence: Predictive validity and cultural applicability*. Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, Vol 71(1-B), 2010. pp. 651. [University of Regina]

While at the University of Regina, Dr. Kim Buchanan tested the ODARA's prediction of criminal charges or convictions for domestic violence. In a two-year follow up of ninety-nine men convicted of a violent offence against their domestic partners, in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan, she reported a large predictive effect for the ODARA (ROC area = .72).

(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Validations"*)

Campbell, J.C., Webster, D. W., & Glass, N. (2009). The Danger Assessment: Validation of a lethality risk assessment instrument for intimate partner femicide. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 24, 653-674. doi: [10.1177/0886260508317180](https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260508317180)

This article describes a case-control study, in which Danger Assessment scores were significantly higher among women interviewed after an attempted murder than women who were victims of less severe physical assault.

(*Special Features: "Domestic Murders"*)

Dinwiddie, K., J. (2013). Exploring the utility of victims' perceptions of risk assessment tools: Validation of the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment using shelter victim interviews (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Chicago School of Professional Psychology. ProQuest, UMI Number: 3587611

This study of 57 women in shelters examined some psychometric properties ODARA. Scores on the ODARA and the Danger Assessment were positively correlated. The ODARA had acceptable internal and split-half validity. Perpetrators' age, where the victim lived, and victim pregnancy accounted for only 1.5% of the variance found in the ODARA responses.

Eke, A.W., Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., Rice, M.E., & Houghton, R.E. (2011). Intimate partner homicide: Risk assessment and prospects for prediction. *Journal of Family Violence*, 26, 211-216. doi: [10.1007/s10896-010-9356-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-010-9356-y)

In a study we conducted with Dr. Angela Eke of men who killed their female partners, their average score was in the highest ODARA category at the time of a previous domestic assault documented in police records.
(*Learning Module 1: ODARA Research and Development, "Prediction"*)

Gerth, J., Rossegger, A., Urbaniok, F., & Endrass, J. (2014). The Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) – Validity und authorized German translation of an intimate partner violence screening tool. *Fortschritte der Neurologie-Psychiatrie*, 82(11), 616-626. doi:[10.1055/s-0034-1384915](https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0034-1384915)

This article provides an authorized translation of the ODARA in German.

Gerth, J., Rossegger, A., Singh, J. P., & Endrass, J. (2015). Assessing the Risk of Severe Intimate Partner Violence: Validating the DyRiAS in Switzerland. *Archives of Forensic Psychology*, 1(2), 1-15. doi:[10.16927/afp.2015.1.1](https://doi.org/10.16927/afp.2015.1.1)

In this study of 168 men who were arrested in Zurich for assaulting or seriously threatening their female partner, the ODARA risk category discriminated between general IPV recidivists and non-recidivists at a follow-up of three months with an ROC area of .73.

Gray, A. L. (2012). *Assessing risk for intimate partner violence: A cross-validation of the ODARA and DVRAG within a sample of incarcerated offenders*. Unpublished MA thesis. [Carleton University]

While at Carleton University in Ottawa, Andrew Gray tested the ODARA, DVRAG, and three other assessments among 94 federal offenders. The ODARA and DVRAG were the strongest predictors of intimate partner violence in a follow up of over 5 years, both with ROC areas of .71.
(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "More Recent Validation Studies for male offenders"*)

Hare, R.D. (2003). *Hare Psychopathy Checklist – Revised (PCL-R)* (2nd ed.). Toronto: Multi-Health Systems.

This manual explains how to score the PCL-R, which is an item in the Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (DVRAG).
(*Special Features: The ODARA/DVRAG System*)

Hilton, N.Z. & Eke, A. W. (2016). Non-specialization of criminal careers among intimate partner violence offenders. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 43, 1347-1363. doi:10.1177/0093854816637886

Among 93 men with a police record against a female marital, cohabiting, or dating partner, the ODARA predicted post-index IPV with a moderate effect size (ROC area = .67) in a 7.5 year follow up. The ODARA also predicted other offenses with a moderate or large effect size including stalking, sexual assault and non-violent offenses.
(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "More Recent Validations"*)

Hilton, N.Z. & Harris, G.T. (2009). How nonrecidivism affects predictive accuracy: Evidence from a cross-validation of the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA). *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 24, 326-337. doi:10.1177/0886260508316478

We have tested the ODARA's predictive accuracy in several validation studies. In this study, we tested the predictive accuracy of the ODARA for men without an extensive criminal history.
(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Validations"*)

Hilton, N. Z., Harris, G. T., & Holder, N.L. (2008). Actuarial violence risk assessment in hospital-based partner assault clinics. *Canadian Journal of Nursing Research*, 40, 56-70.

. In this work, the thirteen ODARA items were used to construct questions for an interview with the victim to ensure that the ODARA could also be used by professionals working in health care, shelters, victim services, or other services supporting victims of domestic violence. And you can see this interview format in some of the videos in the scoring practice section of the ODARA 101 program.
(*Learning Module 1: ODARA Research and Development, "Purpose"*)

Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., Popham, S., & Lang, C. (2010). Risk assessment among incarcerated domestic offenders across follow-up times and case criteria. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 37, 815-832. doi:10.1177/0093854810368937

Together with Dr. Suzanne Popham at the Algoma Treatment and Remand Centre in Ontario, we tested the ODARA's predictive accuracy for criminal charges arising from domestic violence. The sample was limited to men incarcerated in a treatment centre, and the average ODARA score was in the second highest category. We followed these men up for an average of 8 years after release, and found that they spent about one third of that time in custody again. The ODARA significantly predicted recidivism in the full 8 year follow up and in follow-up periods as short as 6 months.
(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Validations"*)

Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., & Rice, M.E. (2007). The effect of arrest on wife assault recidivism, controlling for pre-arrest risk. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 34, 1334-1344. doi: 10.1177/0093854807300757

Men with lower ODARA scores were less likely to be arrested and convicted, even though the ODARA had not been invented at the time. In this study, arrest had no overall effect on domestic violence recidivism but a small beneficial effect in lower risk cases, mostly in terms of a delayed time until recidivism.

(*Learning Module 1: ODARA Research and Development, "Percent who recidivate as a function of ODARA category"*)

Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., Rice, M.E., Houghton, R., & Eke, A.W. (2008). An indepth actuarial risk assessment for wife assault recidivism: The Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide. *Law and Human Behavior*, 32, 150-163. doi:10.1007/s10979-007-9088-6

We have tested the ODARA's predictive accuracy in several validation studies. In this study, we tested the predictive accuracy of the ODARA for men with an extensive criminal history; that is, a police record for wife assault and a correctional system file.

(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Validations"*)

Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., Rice, M.E., Lang, C., Cormier, C.A., & Lines, K.J. (2004). A Brief Actuarial Assessment for the Prediction of Wife Assault Recidivism: The Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment. *Psychological Assessment*, 16, 267–275. [Erratum 17, 131.]. doi:10.1037/1040-3590.16.3.267

The ODARA was created from a study conducted by the Research Department in Penetanguishene, at the Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care, in collaboration with the Ontario Provincial Police Behavioural Sciences and Analysis Services. This article describes the follow-up study, statistical analysis, and predictive accuracy in the original ODARA research and the first validation study.

(*Learning Module 1: ODARA Research and Development*)

Hilton, N. Z., Harris, G. T., Rice, M. E., Eke, A. W., & Lowe-Wetmore, T. (2007). Training front-line users in the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA), a tool for police domestic investigations. *Canadian Journal of Police and Security Services*, 5, 95-98.

Fifty police officers scored the ODARA for two cases, either with or without the scoring instructions. The officers who had the instructions all scored the cases correctly. This article also describes the evaluation of the classroom training program on which ODARA 101 is based.

(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Reliability: Do ODARA Users Agree?"*)

Hilton, N.Z., Popham, S., Lang, C., & Harris, G.T. (2014). Preliminary validation of the ODARA for female intimate partner violence offenders. *Partner Abuse*, 5, 189-203.

Together with Dr. Suzanne Popham at the Algoma Treatment and Remand Centre in Ontario, we tested the ODARA's predictive accuracy for criminal charges arising from domestic violence. The sample was limited to women incarcerated in a treatment centre with a police record of violence against a current or former marital, common law, or dating partner; 6% of the partners were female. The average ODARA score was in the second highest category. We followed these **women** up for an average of nearly **9** years after release, and the ODARA score significantly predicted intimate partner violence recidivism. The overall rate of recidivism was 23%, and there was little evidence that items modified for offender gender predicted recidivism better than the unmodified ODARA.

(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Validation Studies for female offenders"*)

Jung, S., & Buro, K. (2017). Appraising risk for intimate partner violence in a police context. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*. 44, 240–260. doi:10.1177/0093854816667974

In a sample of 226 male perpetrators of actual or threatened violence, who were identified through police reports in Alberta and followed up for at least one year, the ODARA predicted subsequent convictions for any incident against an intimate partner with an AUC of .70. Any violent convictions were predicted with an AUC of .71, and charges (either violent or intimate-partner related) produced AUCs of .67 and .66, respectively. The ODARA was scored with an inter-rater reliability of .91.

(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Validations"*)

Moser, A.E. (2012). Validation and expansion of the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) instrument: An early warning system. (Master's dissertation, University of New Brunswick, 2012).

Angela Moser tested the ODARA's prediction of new police reports for incidents of violence or other disputes against an intimate partner, among 174 male and 26 female perpetrators of such disputes, in the Canadian province of New Brunswick. She reported an overall moderate predictive effect of the ODARA (ROC area = .70), and ROC area of .67 for female offenders. Prediction was improved by adding items measuring psychopathy.

(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "More Recent Validation Studies for male offenders" and "Validation Studies for female offenders"*)

Rettenberger, M. & Eher, R. (2013). Actuarial risk assessment in sexually motivated intimate-partner violence. *Law and Human Behavior*. 37, 75-86. doi:10.1037/b0000001

This study followed up 66 male domestic sexual assaulters for about 5 years after release from the Austrian Prison System. The domestic violence recidivism rate was 21% overall, and the ODARA predicted this recidivism with an ROC area of .71. The ODARA also predicted criminal and general violent recidivism. The DVRAG (an algorithm for combining the ODARA and the Hare (2003) Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R)) also predicted recidivism but did not improve prediction over and above the ODARA.

(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "More Recent Validation Studies for male offenders"*)

Stewart, G., & Henning, K. R. (2010, September). *Risk assessment for intimate partner violence*. Paper presented at the 2nd Annual Domestic Violence Symposium, Seattle, WA.

Outside of Ontario, police Sergeant Greg Stewart and Professor Kris Henningthe ODARA's ability to predict subsequent domestic incidents in police occurrence reports among men in Portland, Oregon. Not all of these men had committed a violent domestic incident in the past, and the researchers had to pro-rate for items pertaining to the index assault and to the victim's children. They followed up the men for two years, and the ODARA significantly predicted domestic violence recidivism.
(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "Validations"*)

Trinh, B. V. (2010). A Replication Study of the Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (DVRAG). (Doctoral dissertation, Alliant International University, 2010).

Among 64 men with a police record of domestic violence and attending domestic violence treatment in Orange County, California, the Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (DVRAG, an algorithm for combining the ODARA and a measure of psychopathy) predicted domestic violence recidivism with a large effect size.
(*Learning Module 2: Validations of the ODARA, "More Recent Validation Studies for male offenders"*)

Other work on domestic violence

Eke, A.W., Hilton, N.Z., Meloy, J.R., Mohandie, K., & Williams, J. (2011). Predictors of recidivism by stalkers: A nine-year follow-up of police contacts. *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, 29, 271-283. doi:10.1002/bsl.975

Among stalking offenders, 77% committed new offenses and 33% committed violent recidivism, within an average follow-up of nearly 9 years. Most violent recidivism was against an intimate partner. Predictors of violent recidivism were similar to those in other populations: younger age at first offense, criminal history, failure on conditional release, and substance abuse.

Folkes, S.E., Hilton, N. Z. and Harris, G.T. (2013). Weapon Use Increases the Severity of Domestic Violence but Neither Weapon Use nor Firearm Access Increases the Risk or Severity of Recidivism. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 20, 1-14.
doi:10.1177/0886260512468232

This article examines whether access to firearms increases assault severity or whether it is the characteristic of a subgroup of offenders who are more likely to commit severe and repeated domestic assault. Although firearm access and weapon use were related to actuarial risk of domestic violence recidivism, neither predicted occurrence or severity of recidivism.

Harris, G.T., Hilton, N.Z., & Rice, M.E. (2011). Explaining the frequency of intimate partner violence by male perpetrators: Do attitude, relationship, and neighborhood variables add to antisociality? *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 38, 309-331. doi:10.1177/0093854810397449

In this study, we measured potential causes of domestic violence in four domains: antisociality, attitudes and values, aspects of the relationship, and neighborhood characteristics. The dependent variable was the total number of instances of domestic violence. Antisocial traits (especially psychopathy) gave the best evidence of causal status. Variables in each other domain exhibited some explanatory power, but some of the apparent causal role could be attributable to enduring antisociality.

Hilton, N.Z. (1992). Battered women's concerns about their children witnessing wife assault. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 7, 77-86. doi:10.1177/088626092007001007

This article reports on interviews with assaulted women about their concerns for their children and how these concerns affected the decision to leave the assailant. Fifty-five percent of the women's children had witnessed violence, and 90% had become involved in the physical or psychological abuse in some way, even after separation. Fifty-five percent of the women left because of the risks to their children.

Hilton, N.Z. (Ed.) (1993). *Legal responses to wife assault: Current trends and evaluation*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

This edited book covers four major themes: historical framework of legal response to wife assault; police attitudes and action; prosecution, mediation, and treatment within the court system; and victims as defendants and participants in the legal system. The authors of each chapter describe evaluation research and highlight their own work in each area.

Hilton, N. Z. (2014). Actuarial assessment in serial intimate partner violence: Comment on Cook, Murray, Amat, and Hart. *Journal of Threat Assessment and Management*, 1, 87-92. doi:10.1037/tam0000013

This invited article shows the scoring and interpretation of the ODARA and DVRAG in a case described by Cook et al. in the same journal issue. The ODARA and DVRAG interpretations with respect to risk assessment concur with conclusions drawn by Cook et al. using the B-SAFER and the SAM but in the actuarial model risk management depends on apportioning existing resources according to policy-level decisions informed by risk and on individual-level assessment of criminogenic needs and responsivity.

Hilton, N. Z. & Eke, A. W. (2017) *Assessing risk of intimate partner violence*. In Campbell, J.C. & Messing, J. T. (Eds.). *Assessing dangerousness: Domestic Violence offenders and child abusers* (3rd Edn.), pp. 139-178. New York: Springer.

This chapter reviews the major published risk assessment tools for intimate partner violence, as well as other risk factors and correlates. It also discusses the potential for assessing risk after change, assessing risk among female domestic offenders, and practice issues in risk assessment and policing.

Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., & Rice, M.E. (2001). Predicting violent recidivism by serious wife assaulters. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 16, 408-423.
doi:10.1177/088626001016005002

This article examines psychopathy, the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG), and motives thought to be related to men's violence against female domestic partners, among men with a history of serious domestic violence. Violent recidivism was lower among these men than among a larger sample of generally violent offenders.

Hilton, N. Z., Harris G. T., & Rice, M. E. (2015). The step-father effect in child abuse: Comparing discriminative parental solicitude and antisociality. *Psychology of Violence*, 5, 8-15. doi:10.1037/a0035189

We studied the step-father effect, whereby children are more risk of physical abuse by parents than are children genetically related to their parents, in domestically violent men who had a minor child at the time of their ODARA index assault. Men were more likely to assault their step-children, an effect observed at all levels of offender antisociality.

Hilton, N.Z. & Harris, G.T. (2005). Predicting wife assault: A critical review and implications for policy and practice. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 6, 3-23.
doi:10.1177/1524838004272463

This non-technical review examines the research evidence for the prediction of domestic violence recidivism by men against their female partners, lethal domestic violence, and the onset of domestic violence. A glossary of terms is included. Data from the ODARA research regarding the effect of domestic violence treatment attendance are presented. Because of statistical and practical limitations to predicting lethal assault, we recommend using an actuarial assessment of assault risk, plus attention to the strongest correlates of lethal assault when lethality is a concern.

Hilton, N.Z. & Harris, G.T. (2007). Assessing risk of intimate partner violence. In J.C. Campbell (Ed.). *Assessing dangerousness: Violence by sexual offenders, batterers, and child abusers*. (2nd Ed.) (pp. 105-126). New York: Springer.

This chapter presents an updated review of the material in Hilton and Harris (2005), with some attention to clinical judgment, risk assessment ethics, and risk communication.

Hilton, N.Z. & Harris, G.T. (2009). Criminal justice responses to partner violence: History, evaluation, and lessons from interventions for criminal conduct. In J. Lutzker & D. Whitaker (Eds.), *Preventing partner violence: Foundations, intervention, issues*. (pp. 219-243). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

This chapter reviews the history and effectiveness of legislation, policing, prosecution, and alternative approaches to domestic violence. The more extensive knowledge about criminal justice responses to other forms of criminal conduct is described, along with lessons that could be applied to domestic violence.

Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., & Rice, M.E. (2014). The actuarial assessment of risk for domestic violence recidivism. In A.C. Baldry & F.W. Winkel (Eds.). *Risk assessment in intimate partner violence*. Nijmegen, Netherlands: Nova Science Publishers, pp. 127-143.

This chapter reviews the development and validations of the ODARA in non-technical language

Hilton, N. Z., & Quinsey, V. L. (2017). Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide can be scored with PCL-R Facet 4. *Crime Scene*, 24, 14-16.

This brief article describes how to use PCL-R Facet 4 instead of the total PCL-R score as the 14th item on the DVRAG. In the same construction sample as reported in Hilton, Harris, Rice, Houghton, & Eke (2008), the modified DVRAG had moderate predictive accuracy with an AUC of .71, and in the cross-validation sample it had a large predictive effect with an AUC of .73.

Messing, J.T., & Thaller, J. (2013). The average predictive validity of intimate partner violence risk assessment instruments. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 28, 1537-1558. doi: [10.1177/0886260512468250](https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260512468250)

This review identified the ODARA as the most accurate IPV risk assessment tool on average. The predictive accuracy of the ODARA in their meta-analysis (ROC area = .67) was equivalent to a moderate effect size and statistically larger than that of the four other tools studied.

Olver, M. E., & Jung, S. (2017). Incremental prediction of intimate partner violence: An examination of three risk measures. *Law and Human Behavior*. Advanced online publication. doi:[10.1037/lhb0000251](https://doi.org/10.1037/lhb0000251)

Olver and Jung tested the ODARA's predictive validity when scored from police files by researchers with good inter-rater reliability (correlation = .90). Among 289 men and women with a history of domestic violence in opposite-sex relationships, the average ODARA score was 5.4. The ODARA showed a large predictive effect in an average three-year follow up, AUC = .72. ODARA scores also predicted violent and general recidivism with large effects. Psychosocial adjustment items from the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment provided incremental predictive validity over the ODARA for intimate partner violence.

Rice, M.E., Harris, G.T., & Hilton, N.Z. (2010). *Violence Risk Appraisal Guide and Sex Offender Risk Appraisal Guide* for violence risk assessment and the *Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment and Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide* for wife assault risk assessment. In R. Otto and K. Douglas (Eds.) *Handbook of violence risk assessment tools*. (pp. 99-120). Oxford, UK: Routledge/Taylor & Francis.

This chapter describes the family of violence risk assessments that have been developed by the Penetanguishene researchers using similar techniques. The impetus for developing actuarial violence risk assessments began more than a half century ago with the recognition that actuarial methods are generally more accurate than clinical judgment, especially for violence risk.

Seewald, K., Rossegger, A., Urbanoik, F., Endrass, J. (2017). Assessing the risk of intimate partner violence: expert evaluations versus the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment. *Journal of Forensic Psychology : Research and Practice*. 17(4), pp. 217-231 [doi: 10.1080/24732850.2017.1326268](https://doi.org/10.1080/24732850.2017.1326268)

This study examined the accuracy of forensic experts using unstructured clinical judgment (UCJ) compared to graduate students scoring the ODARA in identifying high-risk perpetrators of IPV. After a mean follow-up period of 8.0 years, the base rate of violent recidivism was 20.0% and students using the ODARA were significantly more accurate than clinical experts in assessing long-term violent recidivism (AUC = 0.78 vs. 0.44). Raters without extensive clinical training were able to differentiate those spouses who carried on assaulting their intimate partner from those who desisted from violent behavior.

Ulmer, J. C. (2015). *The Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA): A Validation and Comparison Study for an Oregonian Law Enforcement Agency*. Unpublished PhD thesis. [George Fox University]

Jennifer Ulmer tested the ODARA's predictive validity when scored by police officers, among 268 men with a history of domestic violence. The average ODARA score was over 7, and the ODARA showed a very small predictive effect, ROC area of .54. Ulmer attributed this poor performance to problems with training and use of the scoring instructions, as well as time constraints and limited information gathering.