

ESSEX PARTNERSHIP UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

RISK FACTORS

Certain risk factors can indicate an increased risk of physically violent behaviour. The following lists are not intended to be exhaustive and these risk factors should be considered on an individual basis.

Demographic and Personal Information	
<p>History of disturbed or violent behaviour. History of misuse of substances or alcohol. Carers reporting service user's previous anger or violent feelings. Previous expressions of intent to harm others. Evidence of rootlessness or social restlessness. Previous use of weapons. Previous dangerous impulsive acts. Denial of previous established dangerous acts. Severity of previous dangerous acts.</p>	<p>Known personal trigger factors. Verbal threat of violence. Evidence of recent severe stress, particularly a loss event or the threat of loss. One or more of the above in combination with any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cruelty to animals - reckless driving - bed wetting - loss of a parent before age 8
Clinical Variables	
<p>Misuse of substances and or alcohol. Drug effects (disinhibition, akathisia). Active symptoms of Schizophrenia or mania in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delusions or hallucinations focused on a particular person. - Command hallucinations. - Preoccupation with violent fantasy. - Delusions of control (especially with a violent theme) - Agitation, excitement, overt hostility or suspiciousness. 	<p>Poor collaboration with suggested treatments. Antisocial, explosive or impulsive personality traits or disorder. Organic dysfunction.</p>
Situational Variables	
<p>Extent of social support. Immediate availability of a potential weapon. Relationship to potential victim (for example known difficulties in relationship are known).</p>	<p>Access to potential victim. Limit setting (for example, staff members setting parameters for activities, choices, etc). Staff attitudes.</p>

Source NICE Clinical Guideline QS154 Violent and aggressive behaviours June 17.