

## The FAM as an addition to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>

The FAM was originally developed as an additional manual to the HCR-20. The new version of the HCR-20, the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> (Douglas, Hart, Webster, & Belfrage, 2013) was published April 2013. Two of the FAM authors (Vivienne de Vogel and Michiel de Vries Robbé) have been involved in two pilot projects into the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> and in the translation of the tool into Dutch. When developing the FAM, the authors were already familiar with the draft (items) of the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> and took the changes from the HCR-20 to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> into account as much as possible. On p.15 in the FAM we describe in a note that the FAM can also be used as an addition to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>.

FAM 2012 manual p.15:

*The FAM was designed as an additional manual to the HCR-20, but it can also be applied as an additional manual to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> when this tool is officially published. The additional guidelines in the FAM to the HCR-20 items H8, H9 and H10 are likely no longer necessary for combined use with the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>. With respect to the new FAM items; the item Victimization after childhood will likely be addressed in the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> proposed item Traumatic experiences, although this item will likely not distinguish between childhood victimization and victimization during adulthood (see Douglas et al., in preparation).*

In the present document we provide some more specific information on how to use the FAM together with the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>. The most relevant changes are described below and in the Tables 1 and 2.

### Additional guidelines to HCR-20/HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> items

Table 1 shows the details on how the additional FAM guidelines can be used with the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>. The additional guidelines to the HCR-20 items H7 *Psychopathy* and H9 *Personality disorder* are now additional guidelines to HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> item H7 *Personality disorder*. These additional guidelines are generally still applicable, but are slightly changed with respect to use with the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> (see Table 1). The additional guidelines to HCR-20 items H6 *Major mental illness*, H8 *Early maladjustment* and H10 *Prior supervision failure* are no longer necessary when using the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>.

### New items

With respect to the FAM items specific for women: almost all FAM items are still considered useful in addition to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>. Only FAM item H15 *Victimization after childhood* is no longer necessary as a new item as this is now included in the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> item H8a *Victimization / trauma*. HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> item H8a considers traumatic experiences at any point during the lifespan (including victimization after childhood). The authors of HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> recognize the importance of victimization and traumatic experiences during the different developmental stages (child, adolescence, adulthood) and have therefore included *indicators*<sup>1</sup> that consider these different developmental stages for coding item H8a. However, we feel that for women the distinction between victimization during childhood and after childhood deserves to be made more explicit, given the empirical knowledge on the severe impact on women of victimization during multiple developmental stages in life. From a clinical and research perspective it is also valuable to be able to make a distinction between victimization during childhood versus victimization during adulthood. Concluding, since research has demonstrated that victimization after childhood is a strong risk factor for women in addition to victimization during childhood, it is recommended to divide the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> item H8a into H8a1 *Victimization and trauma during childhood* and H8a2 *Victimization and trauma after childhood*. The coding guidelines for FAM item H15 can still be used for H8a2. Thus, instead of the FAM item H15, new additional guidelines are offered for the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> item H8a (see Table 2).

Concluding, the FAM can be used as an addition to both the HCR-20 and the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>. In the current FAM manual, we refer to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> (items) several times. For the currently

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<sup>1</sup> Coding indicators are representative examples of the kinds of information that evaluators should look for when making judgments regarding the presence of risk factors (see Douglas et al., 2013).

available FAM versions (English and Dutch) adapted coding sheets can be downloaded from [www.violencebywomen.com](http://www.violencebywomen.com) or [www.hoevenkliniek.nl](http://www.hoevenkliniek.nl) or can be obtained from the authors. New FAM translations will be adapted to use with the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> as well as the HCR-20. In 2014, a new English and Dutch version of the FAM as an additional manual to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> will be published.

### **Reference HCR-20<sup>V3</sup>**

Douglas, K.S., Hart, S.D., Webster, C.D., & Belfrage, H. (2013). HCR-20V3: Assessing risk of violence – User guide. Burnaby, Canada: Mental Health, Law, and Policy Institute, Simon Fraser University.

See for more information also:  
<http://kdouglas.wordpress.com>  
[www.hcr-20.com](http://www.hcr-20.com)

**See for more information about the FAM and recent research results:  
[www.violencebywomen.com](http://www.violencebywomen.com)**

**Table 1. HCR-20 items with additional guidelines in the FAM in relation to HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> items**

HCR-20 item		HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> item History of problems with		Still applicable?	FAM
H6	Major mental illness	H6	Major mental disorder a) Psychotic disorder b) Major mood disorder c) Other major mental disorders	No	Although the additional coding instructions for women are still informative, we do not think it is necessary to have additional guidelines to the new H6 item in HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> . This item has a wider range compared to item H6 of the HCR-20 and the specific disorders for women would fit in well. Postpartum psychosis could be coded under subitem a; Postpartum depression under subitem b; Munchausen by proxy syndrome could be coded in subitem c, except when the woman was delusional, in which case it could be coded under subitem a.
H7	Psychopathy	H7	Personality disorder a) Antisocial or psychopathic b) Other	Yes HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> H7a	Psychopathy is no longer an item in the HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> . Nevertheless, it is still strongly advised to consider for the coding of subitem H7a. The differences between men and women with respect to psychopathy are relevant for the HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> item H7a. Therefore we recommend to keep using the additional guidelines for women when coding the HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> subitem H7a.
H8	Early maladjustment	H1	Violence a) As a child (12 and under) b) As an adolescent (13-17) c) As an adult (18+)	No	The FAM distinguishes between problematic circumstances (FAM H8a) and problematic behaviour (FAM H8b). In the HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> , problematic circumstances can be coded under H8, and problematic behavior at different ages can be coded under H1 and H2. The FAM H8 additional guidelines are thus no longer applicable. See also Table 2 the FAM item H15.
		H2	Other antisocial behavior a) As a child (12 and under) b) As an adolescent (13-17) c) As an adult (18+)		
		H8	Traumatic experiences a) Victimization / trauma b) Poor parenting / caregiving		
H9	Personality disorder	H7	Personality disorder a) Antisocial or psychopathic b) Other	Yes HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> H7b	Research has demonstrated that for women (and men) there is a relationship between violence and all cluster B disorders and/or traits of suspiciousness. When using the HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> for women it is therefore advised to divide H7b into: H7b1 <i>Cluster B disorders (other than antisocial)</i> or <i>traits of suspiciousness</i> and H7b2 <i>Other personality disorders</i> .
H10	Prior supervision failure	H10	Treatment or supervision response	No	The HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> item H10 includes both voluntary and compulsory treatment, thus the additional guidelines in the FAM are no longer applicable.

**Table 2. Changes in FAM items in relation to HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> items**

FAM item		HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> item History of problems with		Still applicable?	FAM
H15	Victimization after childhood	H8a	Victimization / trauma	Yes HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> H8a	In the HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> subitem H8a Victimization / trauma at any point during the entire lifespan is considered (indicators for coding the item concern childhood, adolescence and adulthood). As for women victimization during multiple developmental stages increases violence risk, it is advised to divide item H8a into: H8a1 <i>Victimization / trauma during childhood</i> and H8a2 <i>Victimization / trauma after childhood</i> . The coding guidelines for FAM item H15 can be used to support the coding of <i>Victimization / trauma after childhood</i> .

## Coding sheet Female Additional Manual (FAM)

Additional guidelines to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> for women

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Context of risk assessment:</b>

Coding: No; Partially; Yes; - = Not enough information. Relevance: Low; Moderate; High.  
 The original HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> items and their relevance need to be coded with the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> manual (Douglas et al., 2013).

<b>Historical items (History of problems with...)</b>		<b>Code</b>	<b>Relevance</b>
H7	Personality disorder: <i>additional guidelines to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> item</i>		
	a) Antisocial or psychopathic (lower PCL-R cut-off scores)		
	b) Other personality disorder:		
	1. Cluster B (except Antisocial/psychopathic) or traits of suspiciousness		
	2. Other personality disorder		
H8	Traumatic experiences: <i>additional guidelines to the HCR-20<sup>V3</sup> item</i>		
	a) Victimization / trauma		
	1. During childhood		
	2. After childhood (see FAM previous item H15 for coding guidelines)		
	b) Poor parenting / caregiving (original HCR-20 <sup>V3</sup> coding guidelines)		
H11	Prostitution		
H12	Parenting difficulties <span style="float: right;">□ n.a.</span>		
H13	Pregnancy at young age		
H14	Suicidal behavior / self-harm		

<b>Clinical items (Recent problems with...)</b>		<b>Code</b>	<b>Relevance</b>
C6	Covert / manipulative behavior		
C7	Low self-esteem		

<b>Risk management items (Future problems with...)</b>		<b>Code</b>	<b>Relevance</b>
R6	Problematic child care responsibility		
R7	Problematic intimate relationship		

<b>Other considerations</b>

<b>Final risk ratings near future (12 months)</b>		
<b>Final risk ratings violence to others</b>		
<b>Future violence</b>	<b>Serious physical harm</b>	<b>Imminent violence</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Low - Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate - High <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Low - Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate - High <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Low - Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate - High <input type="checkbox"/> High
<b>Extra risk ratings (experimental)</b>		
<b>Self-destructive behavior</b>	<b>Victimization</b>	<b>Non-violent criminal behavior</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Low - Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate - High <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Low - Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate - High <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Low - Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate - High <input type="checkbox"/> High
<b>Optional:</b> <b>Final judgment protective factors</b> (judged with the SAPROF)		<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Low - Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate - High <input type="checkbox"/> High

<b>Evaluator(s):</b>	<b>Position evaluator(s):</b>
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