



# WARRN

## Assessing Risk of Violence: HCR-20 Basic and Reliability Workshops

Oldwalls Leisure, Gower. 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011

Facilitators

Professor Nicola Gray & Professor Robert Snowden

The HCR-20 is a formal structured risk assessment tool that was designed to predict the future occurrence of violence. It combines information from Historical Factors, current Clinical presentation and a Risk Management plan, in order to guide clinical judgment about the likelihood of future violence and how it might be alleviated. The HCR-20 has been tested in many populations across the world and is regarded by many as the 'gold-standard' in risk management planning.

Training consists of 4 days. First, a two 2-day workshop to learn about the HCR-20 and how to score, interpret and formulate risk. This workshop also covers the evidence-base for the tool and several practice cases and group discussions. Any instrument is only useful if it is being properly applied. In the Reliability Workshop (2-days) participants are given a series of prepared cases to score. Their scores are then compared to 'gold-standard' scores (obtained by expert raters, and consensus scores) to give information on how well they are formulating risk using the HCR-20 and tips to help them improve their performance. Everyone attending this Workshop will receive a Certificate of Attendance and a report outlining their reliability on the HCR-20.

Attendance is open to professionals from a wide range of disciplines. In the past we have trained psychologists, psychiatrists, nurses, social workers, occupational therapists, legal representatives, probation officers, etc. Indeed a 'multi-disciplinary' approach is encouraged.

### Fees

Thanks to the sponsorship of the Welsh Assembly Government we are able to offer these courses at discount prices for those working within Welsh Institutions

Full course - 4 days £450 per person (£650 for those in Non-Welsh Institutions)

Lunch and refreshments are provided. Note that accommodation and evening meals are NOT included.

Further information and discussion of training needs can be sought from Charlotte Cox ([charlottecox@pastoralcymru.com](mailto:charlottecox@pastoralcymru.com)).



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# Oldwalls Leisure, Gower Peninsula

Oldwalls is located in the centre of the Gower Peninsula giving equal access to all Gower beaches, heritage sites and celebrated beauty spots. This location puts our guests at the heart of village life in rural Gower. See more details at <http://www.oldwallsleisure.com>

## Facilitators

Professor Nicola Gray is a consultant clinical and forensic psychologist who currently works in a secure setting for patients with a personality disorder (Ty Catrin, Pastoral Cymru). She has over 10 years experience in the practical use of the HCR-20 in many settings. She is an honorary professor in the School of Medicine, Swansea University. She has published extensively on the issue of risk assessment including several papers on the use of the HCR-20. She is the director of the Wales Applied Risk Research Network (WARRN) within the NHS. Professor Gray has given many workshops on risk assessment instruments and other matters relating to forensic and clinical psychology.

Professor Robert Snowden is an academic at Cardiff University. He has published extensively on topics related to risk assessment, psychopathy and forensic psychology. He has great experience in teaching and in running workshops.

Example publications:

- Gray NS, Hill C, McGleish A, Timmons D, MacCulloch MJ, and Snowden RJ: Prediction of violence and self-harm in mentally disordered offenders: a prospective study of the efficacy of HCR-20, PCL-R and psychiatric symptomology. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 2003; 71:443-451
- Snowden RJ, Gray NS, Taylor J, and MacCulloch MJ: Actuarial prediction of violent recidivism in mentally disordered offenders. *Psychological Medicine*, 2007; 37:1539-1549
- Gray, N. S., Taylor, J. and Snowden R. J. (2008) Predicting violent reconvictions using the HCR-20. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 192, 384-387.