

A. Occupational Risk Exercise

Time required: 20 minutes

Objective: To conduct a risk assessment

1. Select a recorder and reporter from your group
2. Select an occupation from one of your worksites.
3. List all the factors that could increase the potential, or create a potential for violence, on a flip chart, taking into consideration the following:

Job Characteristics – list any job characteristics that potentially contribute to placing a worker at an increased risk of violence, such as new policies and procedures that impact negatively on a client, requirement to work alone, travel requirements, etc.

Environmental Conditions – Consider when the work will take place (time), location of the work, differences regarding time of year, shifts, location that interactions took place and any other possible contributing environmental factors that could possibly increase the risk of violence, e.g., space.

Client Characteristics - What are the risk factors related to clients that could increase the risk? Examples could include history of illness, history of violence. The idea is to list any characteristics that have the potential to increase the risk of violence.

Situational Risk – What is the nature of the interaction – whether from a client or family member – that could contribute to the risk of violence. Some items to consider would be improper assessment of client, and violence prevention initiatives (procedures) that are in place to deal with the client. This section includes policies and procedures, for example a policy that states clients must be woken up at 6:00 am. could place workers at an increased risk of violence. Another risk could be where the worksite is located, for example in a high crime area.

B. Occupational Risk Exercise

Time required: 20 minutes

Take each factor that your group has identified and break it down into elements.

- For example, if you have listed working alone as a risk factor, what are the elements of working alone that increases the risk?

Example

Risk factor: Working alone

Elements of risk:

- working in isolation with no communication
- walking to an isolated area
- working at night
- no ability to seek assistance
- no response from employer
- no reporting mechanism

C. Occupational Risk Exercise

Complete the Prevention Measures Worksheet

1. Identify possible prevention measures for the risks listed in Exercise 2.

In this exercise, the purpose is not to seek out the perfect solution, but to look at all factors and develop a solution that either eliminates or reduces the risk of violence.

2. Report back

Each group will report back on the initial incident, risk factors, and the main elements of their prevention measures.

Prevention Measures Worksheet

(This is a guide only – use additional categories or additional space as needed)

1.	List risk elements from Risk Assessment Worksheet	
	What Policy Should be either changed or created?	
	What Prevention Procedures or Measures Should be in Place to Eliminate the Risk?	
	What are the Response Plans That Should be Implemented?	
	Which Worker Should be Trained and What Type of Training?	
	Notes	

2.	List risk elements from Risk Assessment Worksheet	
	What Policy Should be either changed or created?	
	What Prevention Procedures or Measures Should be in Place to Eliminate the Risk?	
	What are the Response Plans That Should be Implemented?	
	Which Worker Should be Trained and What Type of Training?	
	Notes	

3.	List risk elements from Risk Assessment Worksheet	
	What Policy Should be either changed or created?	
	What Prevention Procedures or Measures Should be in Place to Eliminate the Risk?	
	What are the Response Plans That Should be Implemented?	
	Which Worker Should be Trained and What Type of Training?	
	Notes	

Note: Identified prevention recommendations and resulting actions should be assigned and due dates for completion established and monitored. When reviewing workplace design or layout use a workplace floor plan or site plan to guide you.