

# The DICES® Risk Assessment and Management System

A cogent system that actually facilitates clinical work, this is one of our most renowned courses.

A 2-day course for 6-15 people (3-day and 1-day versions also available).

#### **Executive Summary:**

Many professionals see risk assessment as tedious at best, anxiety-provoking at worst, so we wanted to construct a reliable system that is reassuring and empowering, exciting even! So we created the DICES® System and now over 6,000 professionals use it. What they love about it is that it teaches the essential risk triad in an enjoyable way, and in a way that actually helps them to produce great clinical work. The risk triad is:

- 1. Notice and assess any risk present.
- Manage the risk: take action to minimise the possibility of the risk happening.
- Demonstrate that you have assessed and managed the risk as well as it is possible to do so.

The training is available as a 2-day course (which is suitable for most people), and a 3-day course (which is appropriate for senior personnel or DICES® champions, for whom even greater depth is desirable). Or, if you just want to plug gaps in your existing risk system, you can order in just one or two of the above topics, with each topic being a 1-day input.

#### Who Should Attend?

Everyone who works with people in settings such as: Adult Mental Health, Children and Adolescents, Older People, Substance Misuse, Forensic, Learning Disability, and Brain Injury.

The professional affiliations of people attending this course include: mental-health nurses, social workers, occupational therapists, clinical psychologists, educational psychologists, psychiatrists, probation officers and others.

#### The course covers:

### Module One: Core knowledge about risk assessment and management.

- Clarifying what our professional responsibilities are in relation to risk assessment and management.
- What happens when things go wrong: themes from inquiries.

#### Module Two: Risk assessment and the DICES® checklists.

- The nature of risk-assessment, the problems associated with it, and how to avoid them.
- Fixed and fluid factors and the importance of each.
- Video analysis: what are the risks associated with this patient?
- Introducing the DICES® series of checklists, and practice in the use of Brief-DICE.
- Using DICES-S (suicide), and an examination of factors associated with suicide.
- Using the other DICES® checklists, covering: self-neglect and vulnerability; violence to others (including you the professional); sex offending; risks that older people are at; risks posed by people who misuse mood-altering substances; risks that children and adolescents are at, including toddlers and unborn children.

#### Module 3: Risk Management.

- Definition and description of risk management: not as complex as it sounds.
- Options for managing risk (a) where there is a risk of harm to self, (b) where there is a risk of harm to others (possibly including you or other professionals), (c) where there are multiple risks.
- A worked example of risk management.

## Module 4: Demonstrating the risk has been assessed and managed competently.

- Assessing risk and managing risk are both vital, but you also have to demonstrate that you have done it well: using the DICES® acronym for this.
- Whose benefit is this for the professional, the patient, the organisation, all of those?

#### Teaching methods.

- Exercises: Real Life case examples and how you would respond.
- Video.
- Lecture and discussion.
- Small group exercises and quizzes.

Continued overleaf

#### What this course will do for you.

- It will provide you with the DICES® checklists, effectively enabling you to become 'instant experts' on risks around: Suicide; Self-Neglect and Vulnerability; Violence; Sexual Assault.
- You will have checklists covering risks specifically applicable to older people, children and adolescents, and people who misuse mood-altering substances. Also a screening checklist, to assess whether any at all of the above are relevant in a specific case.
- You will have a simple and empowering definition of risk management, and know how to manage risk in the best ways possible. You will know where the risk management traps are, and how to avoid them.
- You will be able to demonstrate that you have assessed and managed risk to the highest standards, and that you maintain risk assessment and management habits that are up to 'best practice' standards.
- You will be registered at APT as having attended the course, and receive a certificate to acknowledge your APT-Accreditation and registration.

## What you receive as a result of attending the training:

You will be registered as having attended the course, thereby gaining APT's Level 1 accreditation, and receive a certificate to this effect. The accreditation gives you access to online resources associated with the course.

Your registration lasts indefinitely, and your accreditation lasts for 3 years and is renewable by sitting an online refresher which also upgrades your accreditation to APT Level 2 if you are successful in the associated online exam.

Your accreditation is given value by the fact of over 100,000 people having attended APT training. See APT accreditation for full details.

