

Working towards a safer Scotland



Understanding the needs of women who offend

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Assessing risk and needs of women

1. Tools developed on general offender population – predominantly male e.g.
 - LSI-R (and many others)
2. Tools with gender-informed revisions e.g.
 - LS/CMI
 - HCR-20 with Female Additional Manual (FAM)
3. Tools developed on female offender population e.g.
 - Women's Risk Needs Assessment (WRNA)

➤ Women's pathways to offending and imprisonment

- Kathleen Daly, 1992 and 1994
- Nancy Loucks, 2006
- Emily Salisbury and Patricia Van Voorhis, 2009:
 - 3 models to explain women's pathways to imprisonment:
 - social and human capital;
 - past victimisation, trauma, mental health and substance use issues;
 - current relational issues and implications
- Gill Mclvor and Michelle Burman, 2011


➤ Practitioner expertise

- Chaos, complexity, challenge

➤ Policy needs

- Reducing prison population
- Designing custodial estate

FRAME practice process: identify, analyse, evaluate



1. Identify
relevant
factors

2. Analyse: *what do they mean?*

3. Evaluate against
criteria: *what should be done?*

FRAME

Lifestyle stability/safety (possible total 4)		Engagement/compliance (possible total 5)	
Third party threat	2.4	Prior breach	1.8
Finance	4.1	Poor towards supervision	1.39
Accommodation	4.3	Compliance issues	2.1
Parenting concerns	4.5	Motivation issues	5.1
		Denial/minimisation	5.2
Relational: current (possible total 6)		Relational: past (possible total 6)	
Current family violence	4.17 e-h	Current family violence	4.17 a-d
Non-rewarding intimate relationship	1.18	Non-rewarding family	1.43f
Few prosocial friends	1.43h	Adjustment problems since childhood	1.41a
Complexity: mental health needs (possible total 5)		Complexity: behavioural needs (possible total 6)	
Suicide attempts/threats	4.11	Personality traits	1.40
Self-harm	4.12	History of violence	1.41 b
Low self-esteem	4.13	Personality disorder	2.3
Serious mental health illness	4.15	Self-management	2.5
Moderate mental health/emotional distress	4.16	Anger management	2.6
Interpersonally anxious	5.3	Personal/interpersonal skills	2.9

Exploring the data

- Database at January 2014
 - 2300 women (mean age = 34)
 - 578 (25.1%) have served a custodial sentence
 - 12402 men (mean age = 33)
 - 5922 (47.7%) have served a custodial sentence
- Limitations
 - 'Real world' data
 - What you see is what we've got

Correlations: LSCMI section 1

'Needs group'	Correlation with LSCMI score		Correlation with alcohol/drugs score	
	women	men	women	men
Lifestyle stability	.53 **	.50 **	.38 **	.35 **
Engagement/compliance	.64 **	.61 **	.39 **	.34 **
Relational: current	.64 **	.61 **	.45 **	.37 **
Relational: past/family	.46 **	.55 **	.26 **	.27 **
Complexity: mental health needs	.32 **	.27 **	.35 **	.27 **
Complexity: behavioural needs	.49 **	.44 **	.35 **	.35 **

** Correlation is significant at the < 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Correlations: diversity of violent offending

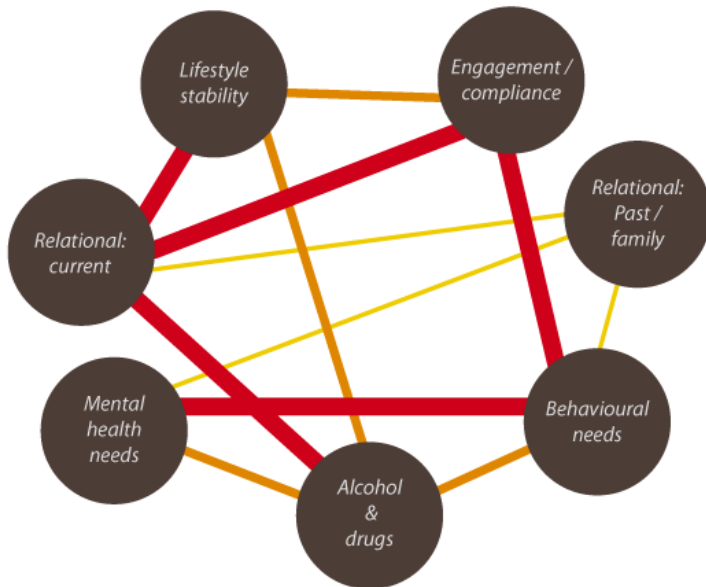
	Women: diversity of violent offending	Men: diversity of violent offending
LSCMI score	.34 **	.44 **
Complexity: behavioural needs	.59 **	.51 **

** Correlation is significant at the < 0.01 level (2-tailed)

LSCMI section 2.1 identifies behavioural traits relevant to violent offending. 'Behavioural needs' draws mainly on this section. Section 2.2 explores the 'history of perpetration' and identifies the number of types of violent offending.

Correlations: between 'needs groups'

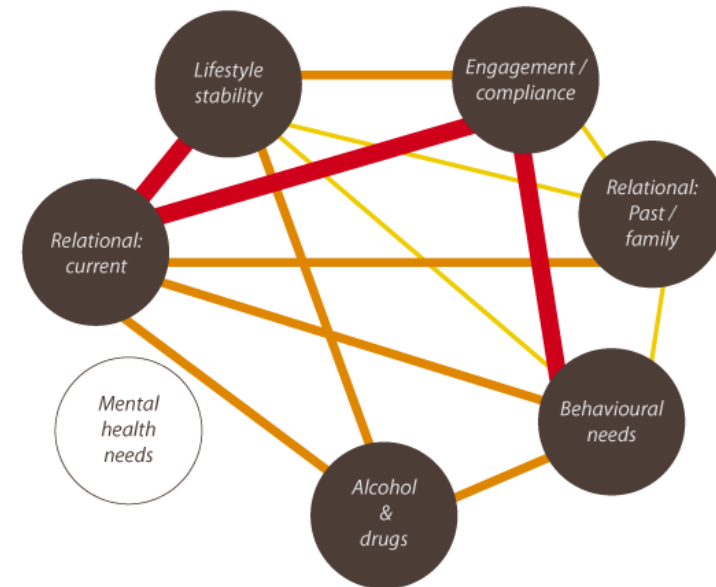
Correlations between needs groups for women



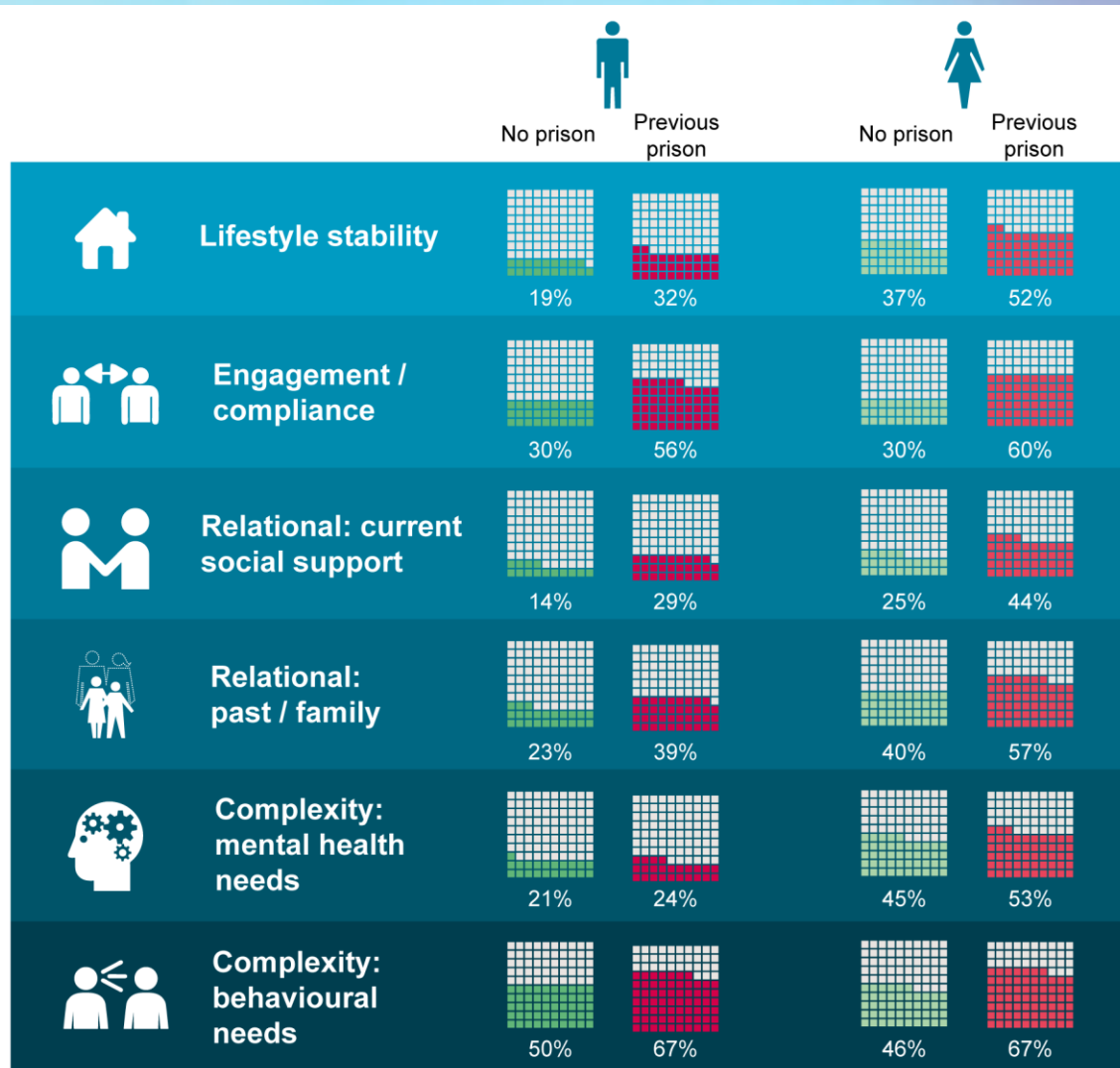
Key



Correlations between needs groups for men



Frequency of more problematic needs

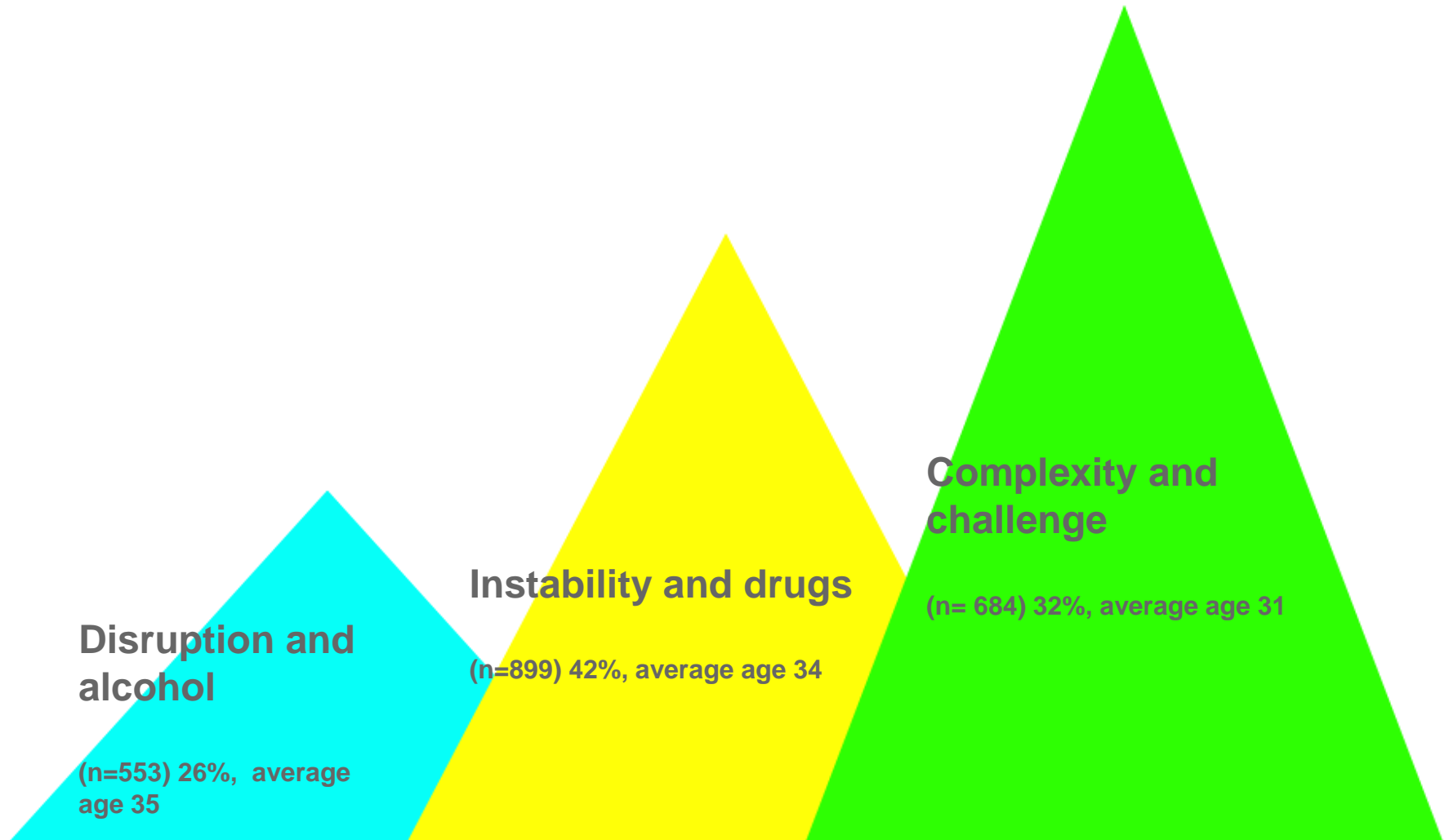


Cluster Analysis



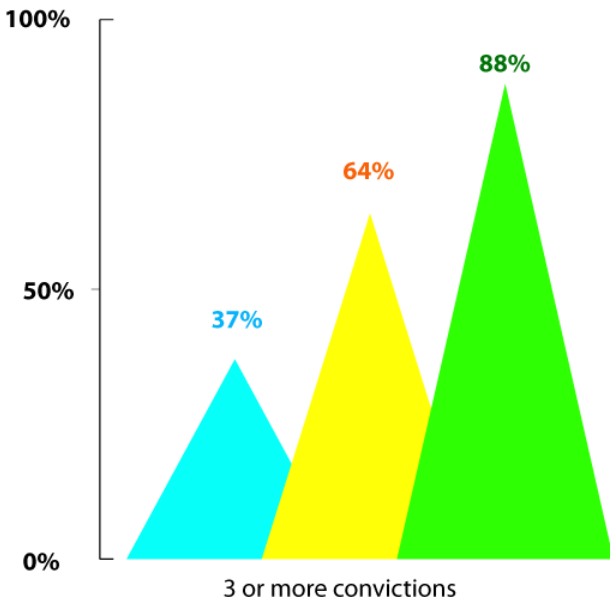
RMA

Risk Management Authority

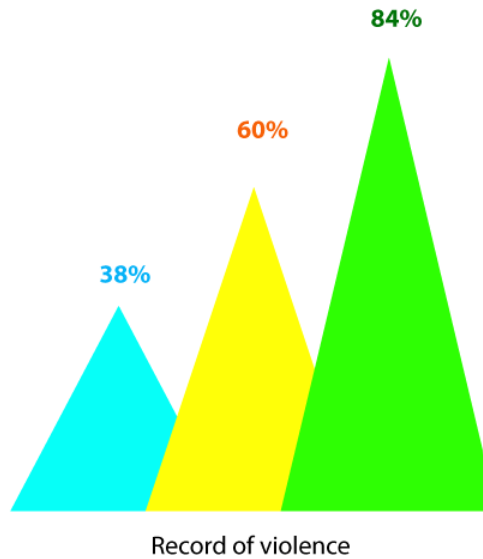


Criminal History

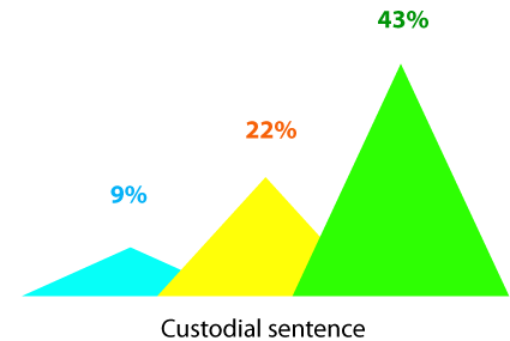
- Disruption & Alcohol
- Instability & Drugs
- Complexity & Challenge



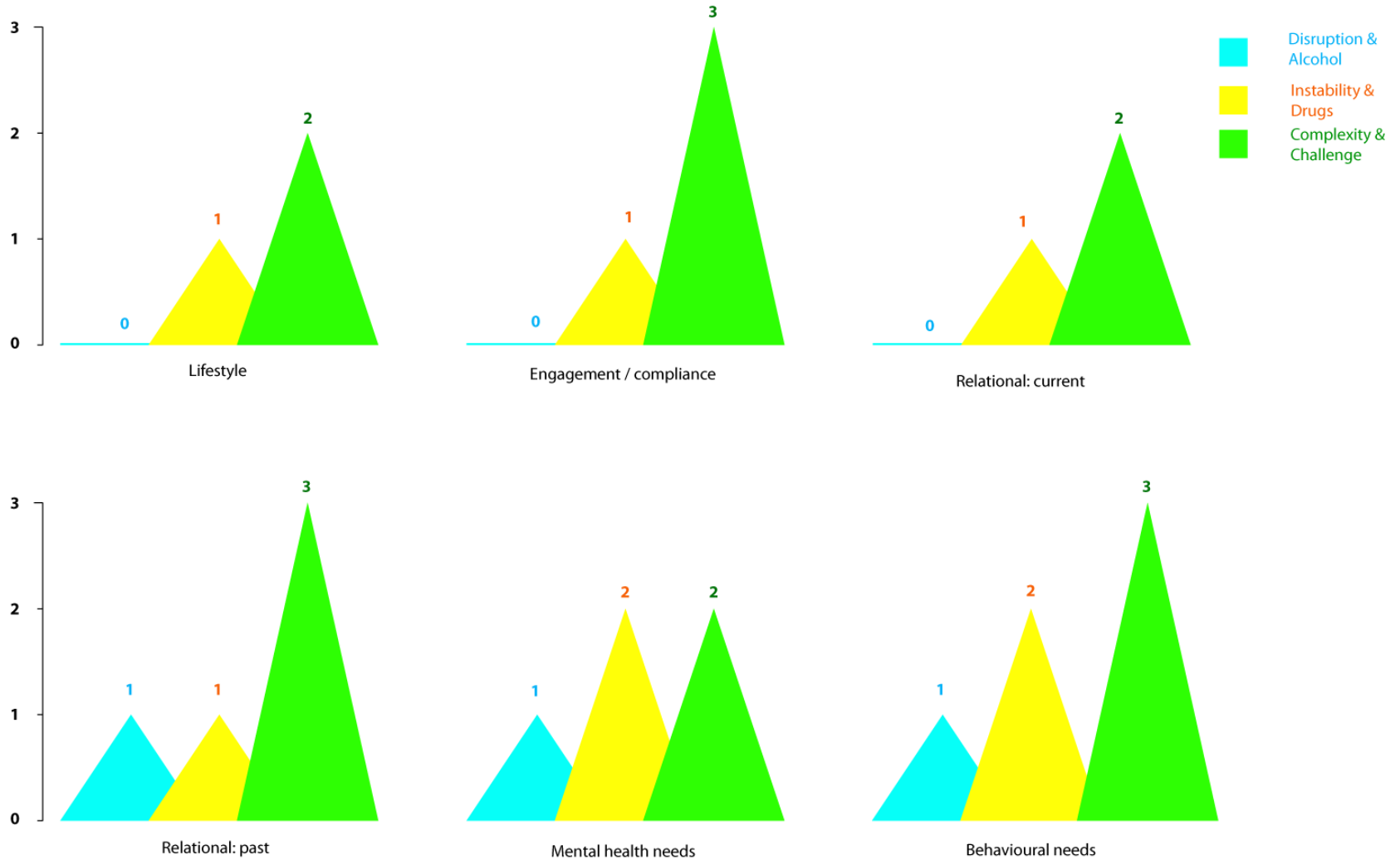
Mean numbers of adult convictions



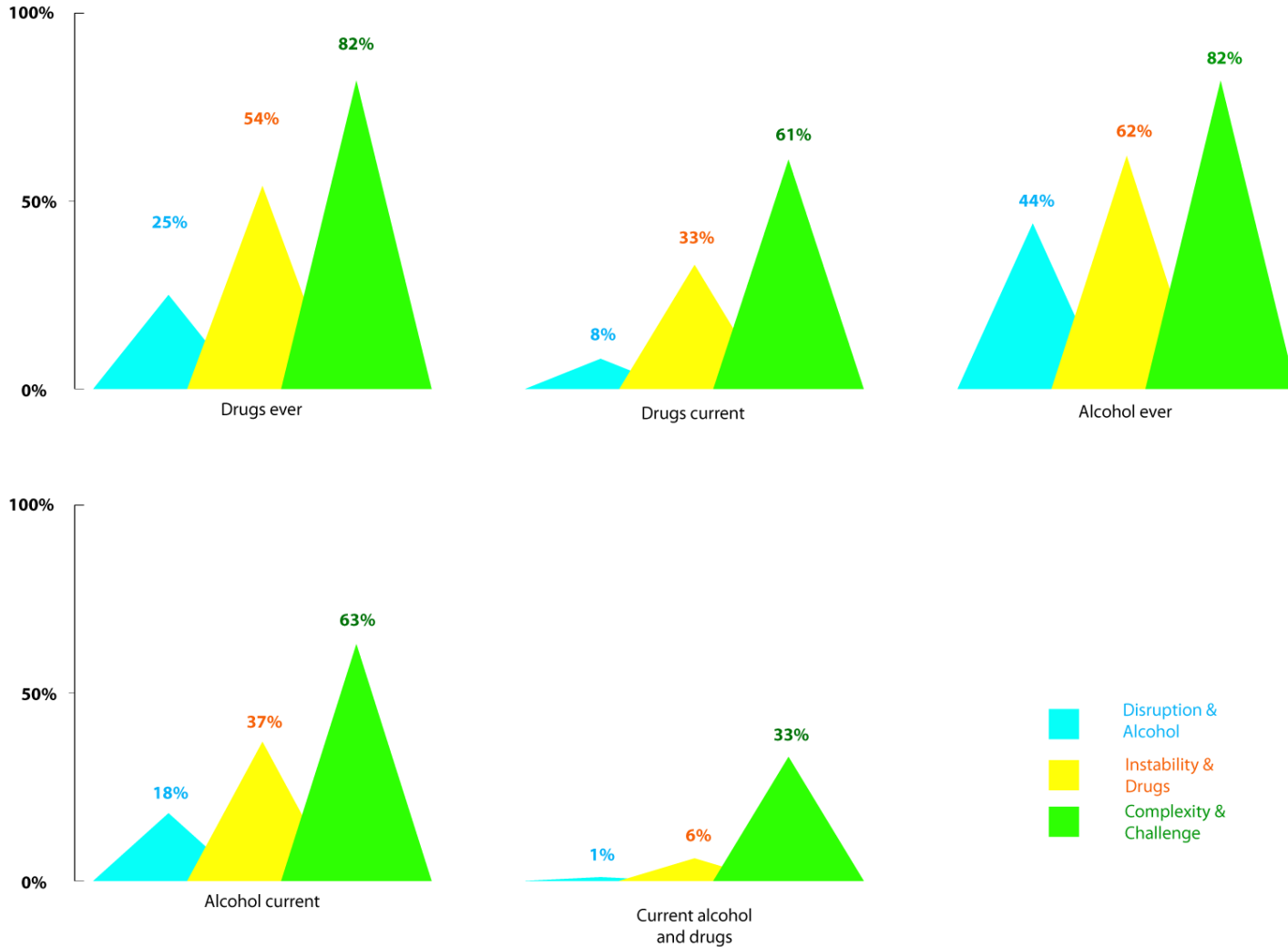
Different types of violence



Needs Groups



Drugs and Alcohol

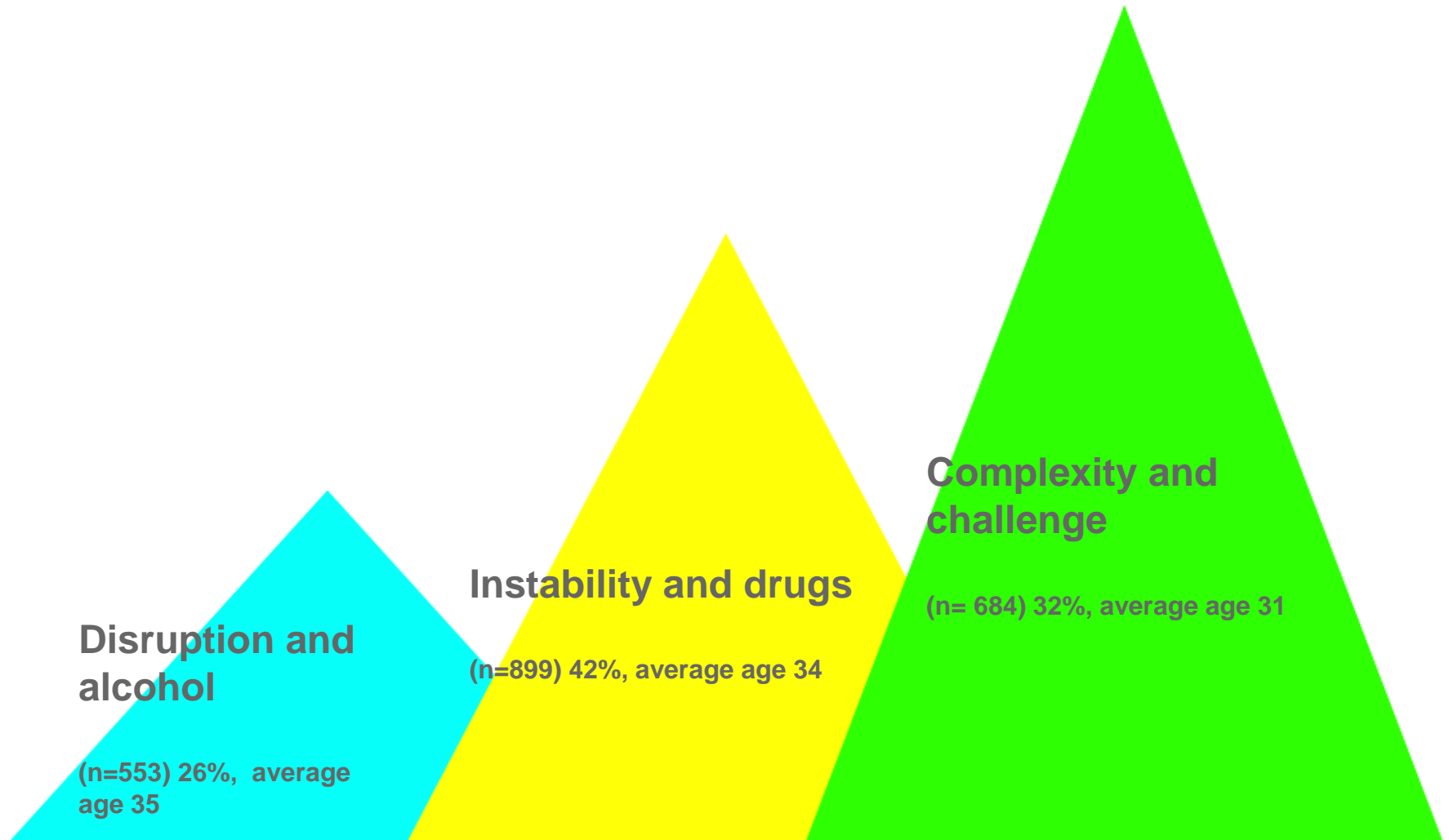


Potential, hope and urgency



RMA

Risk Management Authority



Future directions

➤ Research

- Logistic regression to isolate statistically significant predictors of outcome variable: imprisonment.
- Factor analysis to verify needs groups across LS/CMI populations.
- Cluster analyses of each of the three women's clusters, i.e. mini-clusters.

Implications

- Incorporate
 - guidance and training
 - method
 - system
- Enhance
 - gender-responsive assessment practice
 - needs assessment generally
- Inform
 - service design and delivery
 - policy