

Name of Tool	Domestic Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (DVRAG)
Category	Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking (Awaiting Validation)
Author / Publisher	Hilton and Colleagues
Year	2008

Description

- The DVRAG is a 14-item actuarial tool which assesses the probability of IPV perpetrated by males against a female partner ([Rice, Harris and Hilton, 2010](#)).
- The tool was created as a complement to the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA), combining the ODARA item scores with total score on the Psychopathy Checklist Revised (PCL:R) ([Hilton et al., 2008](#))
- It is recommended that this tool is used only when the assessor has access to detailed clinical and/or correctional data.
- A higher score on the DVRAG indicates a greater risk level. ([Hilton et al., 2008](#); [Hilton, Harris and Rice, 2010](#)).

Age Appropriateness

18+

Assessor Qualifications

The DVRAG is intended for use by forensic clinicians and criminal justice officials who can access in-depth information.

Tool Development

- The DVRAG was developed from the ODARA (see p. 76) through the addition of clinically relevant information that is not routinely available to the police ([Hilton et al., 2008](#)).
- [Rettenberger and Eher \(2013\)](#) found the DVRAG yielded good predictive validity for domestic violence (AUC .71), general criminal (AUC .70) and general violent reoffending (AUC .70).
- [Hilton et al. \(2008\)](#) - the DVRAG achieved good predictive validity (ROC = .71). DVRAG scores correlated significantly with recidivism ($r = .30$), number of recidivistic offences ($r = .37$), severe physical abuse ($r = .37$) and total injury ($r = .39$). The DVRAG scores exhibited excellent inter-rater reliability ($r = .92$).

General Notes

- The DVRAG was developed from the ODARA through the addition of clinically relevant information that is not routinely available to the police ([Hilton et al., 2008](#)).

- [Rettenberger and Eher \(2013\)](#) - the DVRAG displayed moderate accuracy in predicting domestic violence recidivism (AUC = .71) in a sample of 66 high-risk males who had committed sexual offences against their current or former partners.
- [Trinh \(2010\)](#) found large effect sizes between scores on the DVRAG and domestic violence recidivism.
- [Hilton et al. \(2008\)](#) - the DVRAG achieved good predictive validity (ROC = .71). DVRAG scores correlated significantly with recidivism ($r = .30$), number of recidivistic offences ($r = .37$), severe physical abuse ($r = .37$) and total injury ($r = .39$). The DVRAG scores exhibited excellent inter-rater reliability ($r = .92$).
- The manual for the DVRAG system is contained in the book: Hilton, N.Z., Harris, G.T., and Rice, M.E. (2010). *Risk assessment for domestically violent men: Tools for criminal justice, offender intervention, and victim services*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association ([Access Here](#)).