

Name of Tool	Early Assessment Risk List for Girls (EARL-21G)
Category	Youth Assessment: General Risk (Awaiting Validation)
Author / Publisher	Levene and Colleagues
Year	2001

Description

- The EARL-21G is a 21 item structured clinical risk assessment tool to be used with females aged 6-12 years. It is designed to assess the risk level of future anti-social behaviour in order to inform treatment planning.
- It is similar to the boys' equivalent EARL-20B, with the inclusion of some gender-responsive items such as caregiver-daughter interaction.
- There are three sections within the tool: 1) family, looking at familial support and stressors; 2) child, looking at risk factors associated with the individual; 3) responsivity in terms of the ability and willingness of the individual and their family members to engage in interventions (Augimeri et al., 2001; 2019).
- Items are rated on a 3-point scale from 2 for presence, 1 for some but not complete and 0 for the lack of presence. There is also a clinical risk column for the assessor to red flag any factors that are particularly concerning ([Augimeri et al., 2010a](#)).

Age Appropriateness

For girls ages 12 and under.

Assessor Qualifications

EARL-21G should be used by clinicians and other professionals with experience of working with high-risk children.

Tool Development

- Developed from adult assessment tools and juvenile offending screening assessments ([Augimeri et al., 2005](#)).
- The goal of the EARL-21G is to help clinicians determine effective clinical risk management plan that may negate risk and prevent high-risk children entering the juvenile or adult justice systems ([Augimeri et al., 2010](#)).
- Girls had significantly higher composite scores than boys on the 19 common items shared in both the EARL-20B and EARL-21G assessments particularly on the 'Family' and 'Child' items ([Augimeri et al., 2010](#)).
- [de Rooter and Augimeri \(2012\)](#) - the EARL-21G achieved moderate to strong predictive accuracy in relation to teacher-reported delinquency and the composite scores (AUC=.68) and final risk judgement (AUC = .71). No significant association was found, however, between EARL-21G scores and recidivism in official police records.

- Koegl (2011) - the composite score for the EARL-21G attained moderate accuracy in predicting any offence (AUC = .65).
- [Augimeri et al \(2010a\)](#) - using cox regression analysis, to analyse the relationship between variables, it was found that scores on the 'Antisocial Values and Conduct' item were significantly related to an increased probability to engage in future criminal offences. This was more so than the composite scores containing a combined score of multiple variables
- Yuile (2007) - the EARL-21G attained low to high kappa values ranging from .34 to .88 with an averaged item-level agreement on individual items of .55. Reliability scores for four of the items were low (i.e. .36 to .40).
- Levene et al. (2001) - moderate to high ICC values obtained for the EARL-21G composite scores (ICC = .67 [single measure] and .86 [average measure]).
- [Augimeri et al. \(2010b\)](#) found that only the item 'Antisocial Values and Conduct' predicted criminal outcomes for a sample of 380 girls.
- Koegl et al. (under review) found that overall, manifesting antisocial behaviour was the strongest predictor for future criminal convictions (OR = 6.00), and poor coping Ability (C12) was associated with more than a fourfold increase in the odds of committing an offence.

General Notes

- No validation evidence for UK samples at present.
- The majority of the current validation literature has been conducted by the authors of the EARL-21G.
- Fewer studies examining the predictive accuracy of the final judgement ratings.
- Other studies have used factor analysis methodology to validate the underlying constructs relating to the tool (e.g. confirmatory factor analysis used to test data based on existing theory or analytic research).
- The EARL-21G was used in the 'Interventions for Vulnerable Youth' Project funded by the Scottish Government.
- The EARL-21G had been used in Edinburgh and is currently used in Glasgow as part of the SNAP® (Stop Now And Plan) pilot programme, a multi-modal, gender-specific, evidence-based intervention for young children aged 6-11 with conduct problems and their families [Augimeri et al., 2017; 2018](#)). A presentation by [Augimeri, Walsh and Donato \(2016\)](#) explored the criminal outcomes for participants of SNAP®. The first wave informed the cost benefit analysis of SNAP® and the second wave informed the trajectory of SNAP® children and the predictive validity of the EARL tools.
- The tool has been translated into six languages other than English (Swedish, Finnish, Norwegian, French, Dutch, and Japanese) and is used in various countries to assess the risk of future antisocial behaviours in young children.
- The EARL Pre-Checklist (EARL-PC: [Augimeri et al., 2010a](#)) has been recently developed as an abbreviated version of the full EARL assessments (see the EARL-20B entry in the Responsivity category for more information).