

Name of Tool	Level of Service Inventory-Revised: Screening Version (LSI-R:SV)
Category	General Risk Assessment (Validated)
Author / Publisher	Andrews and Bonta
Year	1995

Description

- The LSI-R:SV is an 8-item actuarial screening tool derived from the LSI-R. It encompasses seven key risk factors: criminal history, criminal attitudes, criminal associates, personal/emotional, employment, family and substance abuse.
- Similar categorisation of risk as observed in the LSI-R. High composite scores may warrant further analysis from the full LSI-R or LS/CMI assessment.
- Normed on Canadian institutionalised and probation populations.

Age Appropriateness

16+

Assessor Qualifications

Similar specifications as with its predecessor, the LSI-R.

Strengths

- Ideal for use when a complete LSI-R assessment may not be feasible, due to time constraints or insufficient staff resources. It is estimated to take between 10 and 15 minutes to administer.
- The LSI-R:SV can assist in prioritising cases for further intervention including assessment.

Empirical Grounding



- The LSI-R:SV is supported by and consistent with ‘...general personality, social psychological theory of criminal behaviour and the LSI-R items are consistent with an empirical body of literature and theory...’ (Andrews and Bonta, 1998:1).

Inter-Rater Reliability




a) UK Research


None at present.


b) International Research

- [Walters \(2011\)](#) - an estimate of inter-rater reliability from a random sample of 17 participants revealed an ICC of .71.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a selection of 25 cases, Livingston et al. (2015) found that the LSI:R-SV had an ICC of 0.79.
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Validation History	
General Predictive Accuracy	
a) UK Research	None at present.
b) International Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walters and Schlauch (2008) - the LSI-R:SV demonstrated moderate predictive accuracy in relation to recidivism in a male prison sample with AUCs for (1) official records of at least one officially reported incident (.63), (2) official records of at least one 'severe' incident (.62) and (3) self-reported incidents (.69). Yessine and Bonta (2006) compared 256 flagged individuals with 97 high-risk violent ones. High-risk violent individuals were found to scored lower on the LSI-SV. Examining the predictive accuracy of the 256 flagged individuals sample of the LSI-SV resulted in statistically significant results for all types of recidivism bar sexual recidivism. The AUCs generated were 0.68 for any recidivism, 0.67 and 0.63 for violent and non-violent recidivism respectively; sexual recidivism yielded an AUC of 0.53. The authors caution that the lack of predictive power in relation to sexual recidivism may be due to the relatively low base rate.

Validation History	
Applicability: Females	
a) UK Research	None at present
b) International Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowenkamp et al. (2009) - the LSI-R:SV was not able to discriminate across the female risk categories of low, moderate and high. They recommend further larger sample research with subpopulations such as women.

Validation History	
Applicability: Ethnic Minorities	
No Empirical Evidence Available.	

Validation History

Applicability: Mental Disorders

a) UK Research

None at present.

b) International Research

- In a sample of 208 mentally ill individuals, the LSI-R:SV predicted recidivism with moderate accuracy (AUC) for the following: (1) any new offence (.67), (2) for non-violent new offences (.65) and (3) for violent new offences (.60) ([Ferguson et al., 2009](#)).

- [Thomas et al. \(2009\)](#) found the LSI-R:SV composite score generated moderate accuracy in predicting recidivism in a sample of forensic psychiatric patients (AUC = .72).

- The LSI-R:SV was applied to patients in a forensic psychiatric hospital in Australia to determine its scope to measure aggression risk. The results only showed a weak association between total scores and inpatient aggression, indicating that clinical factors pertaining to aggression should be incorporated into decision-making ([Daffern et al., 2005](#)).

- [Livingston and colleagues \(2015\)](#) conducted a retrospective review of health records for 250 probationers with mental disorders. Predictive accuracy using the LSI-R:SV was better for criminal justice contact and violent behaviour with AUCs of .61 and .67 respectively. The predictive power was less for non-compliance and psychiatric adverse event with AUCs of .58 and .55 respectively.

Contribution to Risk Practice

- The LSI-R:SV can aid the assessor in identifying some static and dynamic risk factors pertinent to the individual's likelihood of reoffending.
- The tool is useful for a brief scan of the main risk factors.
- The tool can alert assessors to the need to conduct a more thorough assessment.

Other Considerations

- Some research has found that the LSI-R:SV does not discriminate between those at moderate and high risk ([Lowenkamp et al., 2009](#)).
- The effectiveness of the LSI-R:SV for screening the offending population is based on preliminary and limited evidence ([Lowenkamp et al., 2009](#)).

- Assessors should note that this tool is a screening version of the full assessments (i.e. LSI-R, LS/CMI) and is not a comprehensive measure of risk and need factors.
- The LSI-R:SV should be completed using information obtained from interviews with the individual and other collateral sources of information.