

Assessment Tools for Child Protection and the inclusion of HIV risk assessment

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ICC Durban

Outline

- Overview of DSD Tools
- Background/introduction to the Girls Risk Index
- How to use the tool and application
- Benefits of the tool
- What is assessment?
- Framework for the assessment of children at risk
- Safety and risk assessment tools
- Benefits of the tool

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Overview of DSD tools

Prevention: Girls Risk Index

Early intervention:

- Generic Assessment – Client enters DSD
- Safety Assessment for abused children

Statutory Intervention:

- Core Assessment namely actuarial and consensus based assessment.
- Through Developmental Assessment the IDP is developed for alternative care placements – finalising children's court enquiries.
- Developmental Assessment tool for Children in conflict with the law – in line with the Child Justice Act.

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Girls Risk Index

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Background/Introduction

- The GRI was designed by GCBS to assess girls risk for HIV by taking a close look at their goals and aspirations, socio-economic status, and household composition, assets and support networks, behaviours related to sexual and reproductive health.
- The tools can be used by service providers to assess the risk areas of children and refer for appropriate interventions.
- It is important for services providers to update resource lists of continuously and programmes implemented in their area of operations so that each referral can be tracked and followed up.

How to use/Applications

- The client respond to 5 questions which is meant to pre-determine the line of questioning should be taken, lower risk or higher risk.
- Then, the respondents will answer questions which are subdivided into five sections that aim to determine the structural and behavioural risks that may face girls.
- The Girls Risk Index is subdivided into sections including personal details, demographics and aspirations, households composition, social assets and networks and sexual practices.
- At the end of each section, the administrator will record the number of YES and NO responses.
- The number of YES or NO responses will then be tallied to assess whether the clients risk for HIV is considered lower or higher.

Process cont...

- The response to each question will be counted and scored.
- The Administrator to tall all the responses for each client to determine the risk
- Everyone participating in the Girls Index should will referred to the programmes, services and activities to improve life and reach the goals and dreams and followed up.
- **Benefits of the tool:**
- It moves children away from vulnerability because they will be linked with skills and be empowered.
- Strengthen clients aspirations which build through their Resilience.

SAFETY AND RISK ASSESSMENT

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What is assessment?

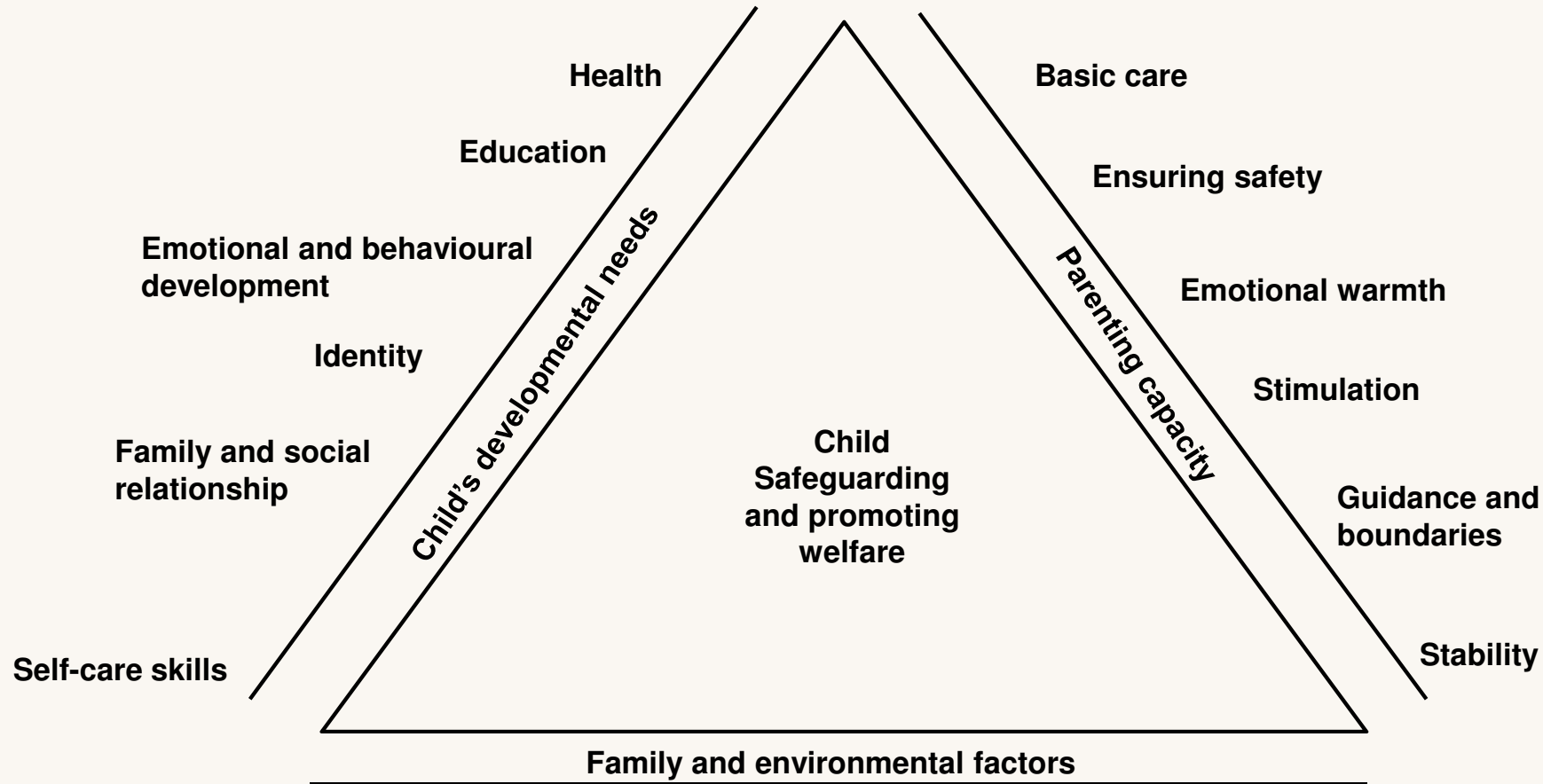
- Is multi-dimensional of nature,
- have multiple domains (capacity, needs, environmental factors),
- use various sources (teachers/professionals/extended family members/health practitioner),
- can be done in various settings (one to one/home/school); and
- can be conducted more than one occasion (more than one session).

It evolved as the life cycle of the case continues.

Its part of a perceptual-analytic process that involves selecting, categorising, organising and synthesising of data.

It involves both analytical skills, an understanding of the client, social worker, and of the relationship between them.

Framework for the assessment of a child at risk

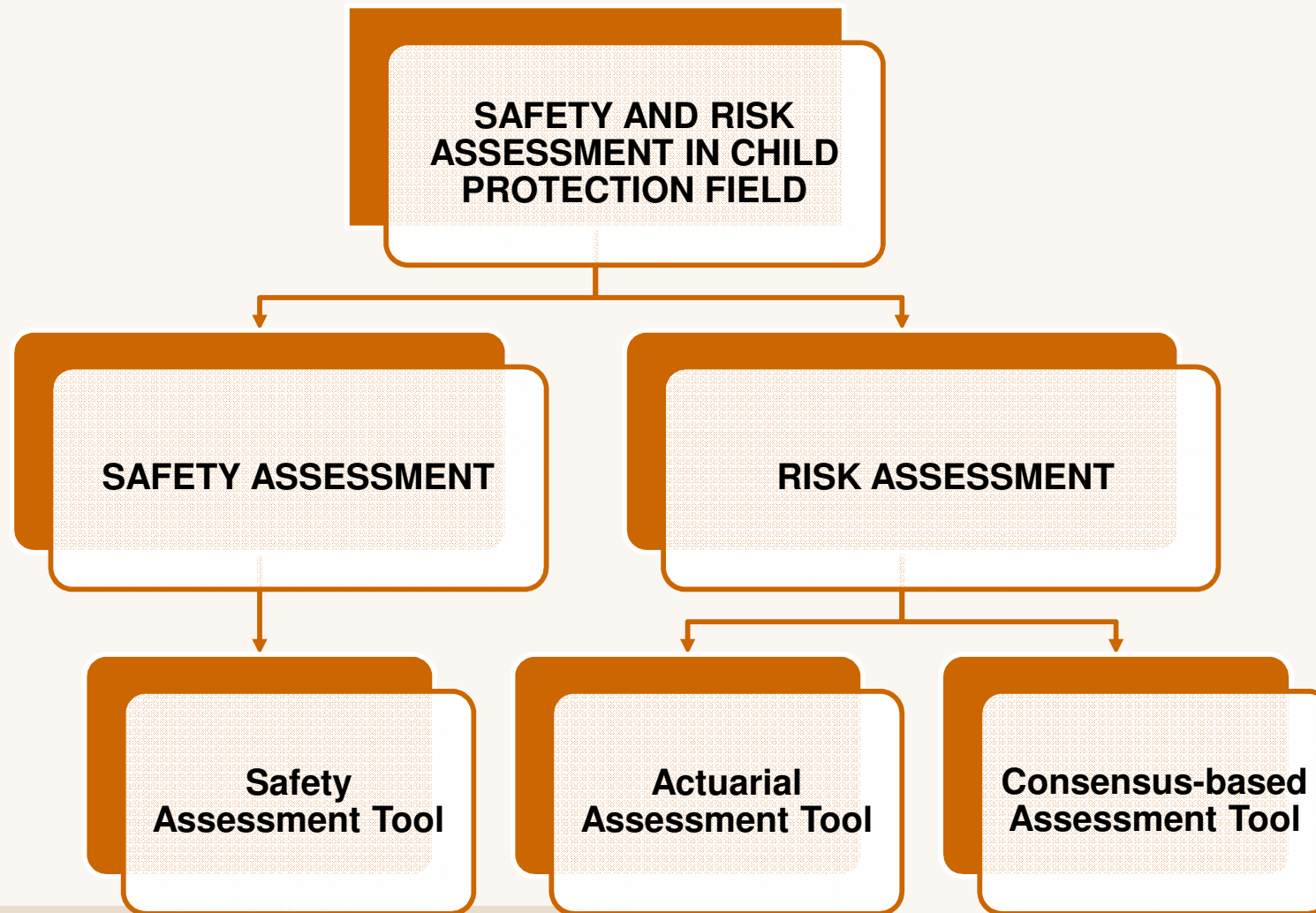


Family history Wider Housing family Employment Income Family Social integration Community resources

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Safety and Risk Assessment Tools



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Benefits of the tool

- Intensify implementation of prevention and early intervention programmes.
- Provides practical implementation of s110 (5) (7), Reg 35 and Form 38.
- Prevents unnecessary removals.
- It informs specific intervention plans which are goal directed.
- Strengthens professional standard in SW practice- (rights, principles, approaches and theoretical frameworks).
- Provide evidence to court why previous interventions fail

“Success is the good fortune that comes from aspirations, desperations, perspirations and inspirations”

Evan Esar

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