

Conducting a Comprehensive Behavioural Assessment for Residents Presenting with Sexual Expressions of Risk

A One-Page Summary of recommended steps found in *Assessing and Responding to Sexual Expressions of Risk*, module 3 of the *Supporting the Sexual Health of People with Dementia* online program.

These steps are designed to be integrated into a standardized behavioural assessment tool, such as the PIECES™ assessment or the Behavioural Supports Ontario Behavioural Support Assessment, in order to provide valuable insights into the resident's overall health, the underlying reasons for their responsive behaviour(s), and their sexual health needs.

1. What specific verbal or physical sexual behaviour is the resident exhibiting?

Document behaviours using specific, objective, and person-centred language.

2. What are the contextual circumstances surrounding this resident's sexual behaviour?

- Where is the behaviour occurring?
- When is the behaviour occurring?
- How often is the behaviour occurring?
- Who is present when the behaviour is occurring?
- What else is happening when the behaviour is occurring?

The BSO-DOS® can assist in identifying the frequency and context in which behaviours are occurring



3. What is causing the resident's responsive sexual behaviour?

All behaviour has meaning! What is the resident trying to tell you?

If your team identifies that the responsive sexual behaviour is due to a medical need, prioritize treatment for the underlying health condition.

Clues, Causes and Care to Consider for Responsive Behaviours offers potential contributing factors for responsive sexual behaviours



4. What psychological and/or physical harm(s) might the responsive sexual behaviour cause?

Identify potential physical and psychological harm(s) to address its consequences or prevent its recurrence.

5. What is the likelihood and severity of the harm(s)?

Assess the **likelihood** (probability) and **severity** (impact) of harm(s), recognizing that risk exists on a continuum and may be interpreted differently by team members.

6. How can we implement strategies to address the resident's unmet needs while minimizing the risk of harm(s) associated with their responsive sexual behaviour?

Develop a behavioural support plan that is proportionate to the level of risk (i.e., low risk, moderate risk, high risk). The plan should focus on identified risks, prioritize the person's well-being and autonomy, and apply person-centred care principles, with interventions tailored accordingly.



Behavioural Supports Ontario
Soutien en cas de troubles du comportement en Ontario

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To learn more about conducting a comprehensive behavioural assessment for residents presenting with responsive sexual behaviours, complete the *Supporting the Sexual Health of People with Dementia* free online program. brainXchange.ca/BSOSexualHealth