

NEWSLETTER 09/28/06

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**RATING SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

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The KENNEDY AXIS V (K Axis) is being used with an increasing number of clients with SEXUAL VIOLENCE. These clients/inmates are being treated in prisons, jails, forensic and non-forensic mental health facilities or even outpatient programs.

To address this, a change in the VIOLENCE section on the K Axis' Scoring Sheet is being considered, i.e. the addition of an area to indicate the client/inmates sexually violent score. The purpose of this Newsletter is to present you with the proposed change for your consideration and feedback.

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**CURRENT SCORING SHEET**

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Currently the Violence Section on the Scoring Sheet is as follows:

VIOLENCE

100_95_90_85_80_75_70_65_60_55_50_45_40_35_30_25_20_15_10_5_

Primarily (check one): Non Violent__ Violent To Self__ Violent To Others__ To Self & Others__

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**PROPOSED SCORING CHANGES**

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We would like to propose the following addition to the Violence section on the Scoring Sheet (the change is marked with ***):

VIOLENCE

100_95_90_85_80_75_70_65_60_55_50_45_40_35_30_25_20_15_10_5_

Primarily (check one): Non Violent__ Violent To Self__ Violent To Others__ To Self & Others__

***Sexual Violence Score: _____

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**EXAMPLES**

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Enter the K Axis score for Sexual Violence in this final line. If you believe there is no significant sexual violence, indicate the K Axis score for Sexual Violence as 80 or higher.

FOR EXAMPLE, a client may have a lot of assaultive and self- injurious behaviors with a K Axis score on Violence of 30 with an indication of "Primarily Violent to Self & Others." The violence to others may include a significant component of Sexual Violence, e.g. 50. The 50 would, therefore, be entered into the blank following "Sexual Violence."

IN ANOTHER EXAMPLE, a client may be extremely violent to others with only some occasional thoughts of very minor sexual violence. This person may have a K Axis score of 20 in Violence with an indication that it is "Primarily to Others." The minimal sexual violence may only be a 70 and this would be entered under Sexual Violence. In such a very violent person, there may be clinical reasons to want to monitor the sexual violence to help assure that it is not incorporated into areas of active violence.

IN A THIRD EXAMPLE, a client has a K Axis score of 70 on Violence with a sexual component of 70, this may be within the normal range and of little or no real concern. You would enter the 70 under Sexual Violence; however, the K Axis score of 70 in overall violence would help to assure that the client is not mistaken as sexually violent. The narrative entry should also ensure that the person is not mistaken for sexually violent and, of course, the score of 70 in Sexual Violence would suggest that there is very little evidence of sexual violence.

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### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE APPRECIATED

We would appreciate feedback (Letters/Emails to the Editor) on the proposed addition of a Sexually Violent score in the VIOLENCE section on the K Axis' Scoring Sheet.

We are especially interested in feedback from clinicians working with clients/inmates who are having problems with sexual violence.

Best Wishes,

The Staff at KennedyMD.com

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