1.4.B.16 PREA Institutional Risk Screens

I Policy Index:

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- Distribution: Public
- Replaces Policy: 1.4.B.12 & 1.4.B.15
- Supersedes Policy Dated: 06/25/2018
- Affected Units: All Institutions
- Effective Date: 03/09/2020
- Scheduled Revision Date: May 2021
- Revision Number: 6
- Office of Primary Responsibility: PREA Coordinator and DOC Administration

II Policy:

The Department of Corrections (DOC) will utilize the PREA Inmate Admission Screen and the PREA Admission Review Screen to determine an inmate’s potential vulnerability to a sexual abuse.

III Definitions:

Direct Staff Supervision:
For the purpose of this policy, this is defined as staff being present in the same area as the inmate(s) and within reasonable hearing distance of the inmate(s).

Facility:
For the purpose of this policy, facility refers to inmate housing locations within the Department of Corrections (DOC). DOC facilities include:

- South Dakota State Penitentiary (including Jameson Prison Annex and Sioux Falls Community Work Center)
- Mike Durfee State Prison
- Yankton Community Work Center
- Rapid City Community Work Center
- South Dakota Women’s Prison (including Unit E, PACT House and Pierre Community Work Center)

Institution:
Any state or federal prison, county jail or juvenile detention facility.

PREA:
The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 was enacted by Congress to ensure inmates in the custody of correctional agencies in the United States are protected from sexual abuse and sexual harassment perpetrated by other inmates and agency staff.
PREA Risk Screen:
An assessment (screen) based upon the Final Adult PREA National Standards. The goal of this screening is to aid in the determination of an inmate’s potential for sexually abusing others (aggressor) or being sexually abused by others (victim).

IV Procedures:

1. PREA Risk Screens:
   A. Inmates will receive the following PREA risk screens.
      1. Initial risk screen.
      2. PREA risk screen.
      3. Risk screen review.
   B. The PREA risk screen is the same assessment for all three screens (See Attachment 1). The PREA risk screen results shall be based upon the information available at the time the screen is administered.

2. Initial PREA Risk Screen:
   A. All inmates admitted to a DOC facility will have an Initial PREA risk screen completed within 72 hours of intake or transfer to another facility.
      1. An Initial PREA risk screen will be administered to inmates returning as a parole violator, suspended sentence violator or with a new or additional sentence.
         a. Any previous PREA code assigned to the inmate will be updated based on results obtained from the initial risk screen. Changes captured by the subsequent assessment shall be applied.
      2. An Initial PREA risk screen will be completed on all inmates or parole detainees housed at a DOC facility in excess of 72 hours.
         a. Detainees from the Community Transition Program (CTP) arriving at an Admissions and Orientation (A&O) unit from another DOC housing unit, will have their current PREA risk code reviewed according to Section 4 of this policy.
   B. The Initial PREA risk screen will include information about the inmate’s demographics, the results of an NCIC background check, and any documented/known institutional or parole/suspended sentence behavior(s).
   C. An inmate’s answers/responses to the Initial PREA risk screen may not be used to the inmate’s detriment by staff.
      1. Inmates may not be disciplined for failure to respond, answer or provide complete answers to the screening questions.
   D. The screen will be used to determine an inmate’s PREA risk score. An inmate’s housing assignment will be based in part on his/her assigned PREA risk score.
E. During the admission process, staff will present the inmate with information explaining the DOC’s zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment and how to report incidents or suspicions of, sexual abuse or sexual harassment (See DOC policy 1.4.A.2 Inmate Admission). This information is contained in the Inmate Living Guide, which inmates have access to upon admission to a DOC facility, either in printed format or electronically through their DOC issued tablet or a kiosk.

1. Unit staff completing the Initial PREA risk screen will document the presentation of Prevention of Sexual Abuse/Harassment Information - part 1 on Attachment 4.

F. Medical / Mental Health referral.

1. If the screening indicates an inmate has previously perpetrated sexual abuse, whether this occurred in an institutional setting or in the community, staff will ensure the inmate is offered a follow-up meeting with Sex Offender Management Program (SOMP) staff within 14 days of the intake screening (See DOC policy 1.4.A.3 Sex Offender Management Program).

2. If the intake screening indicates an inmate has experienced prior sexual victimization, whether this occurred in an institutional setting or in the community, staff will ensure the inmate is offered a follow-up meeting with medical or behavioral health staff within 14 days of the intake screening.

3. PREA Risk Screen:

A. All inmates admitted to the DOC will have a PREA risk screen (See Attachment 1) administered by an A&O case manager trained to administer the screen within 30 days of arrival at the facility.

1. The PREA risk screen will include the inmate’s demographics, results of a NCIC criminal background report, sentencing information and PSI (if available), classification and assessment information, documented/known institutional behavior and other relevant information.

B. Newly received inmates will remain in the Admissions & Orientation (A&O) Unit until the assessments are completed.

C. An inmate’s answers/responses to the PREA risk screen may not be shared with unauthorized staff or other inmates. Information shall not be used to the inmate’s detriment by staff.

1. Inmates are not subject to discipline for failing to respond to questions or failing to provide complete answers to the screening questions.

D. Within 30 days of intake, unit staff will provide comprehensive education to inmates, either in-person or through video, which shall include the inmate’s right to be free from sexual abuse, sexual harassment and any retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment. This information may be provided electronically through the inmate tablets.

1. A&O unit staff completing the PREA risk screen will document the presentation of the Prevention of Sexual Abuse/Harassment Information part 2 PREA Review information on Attachment 4 and in COMS/Assessment/PREA Admissions & Orientation class.

4. PREA Risk Screen Review:

A. A PREA risk screen review (See Attachment 1) will be completed on all inmates with an existing PREA screen when the following exists:

1. The inmate transfers from another facility. Exceptions to this rule include the following:
   a. When the transfer is directly from an Admissions and Orientation unit.
   b. When the transfer is temporary (less than 30 days), i.e. for medical procedures, hearings, etc.
1) Extended temporary transfers shall have a PREA risk screen review completed by the 30th day of arrival at the facility.

2. If there is a recorded incident of substantiated sexual abuse involving the inmate.
   a. Following a finding of guilt of an institutional rule violation, civil procedure or criminal proceeding involving sexual abuse.
   b. Following a report the inmate was the victim of sexual abuse.

3. If new, verifiable, documented information becomes available that supports an inmate is the victim of sexual abuse or at risk of sexual abuse.

B. A PREA risk screen review may be initiated at any time by staff.

1. An inmate’s PREA risk screen score will be reviewed by unit staff whenever an inmate’s classification is reviewed (See DOC policies 1.4.B.2 Male Inmate Classification or 1.4.B.14 Female Inmate Classification).

2. A PREA risk screen review will be initiated by the unit case manager if an incident has occurred or information has been discovered since the last screen that may change the inmate’s score. Some examples that may change an inmate’s risk score include:
   a. A new sentence. The case manager will review the PREA screen when new sentence information becomes available.
   b. When Special Investigations Unit (SIU) staff determine an inmate is a victim of sexual abuse or perpetrator of sexual abuse. SIU staff will notify the inmate’s case manager of this determination within 72 hours.
   c. When Sex Offender Management Program (SOMP) staff determine an inmate has a sexual behavior issue (See DOC policy 1.4.B.9 Sexual Behavior Issue Review). SOMP will notify the inmate’s case manager of this within 72 hours of the determination.
   d. When Behavioral Health staff determines the inmate has a COMS Mental Health Alert: No Move - Contact CBH code. Staff making the determination will notify the inmate’s case manager within 72 hours of the determination.
   e. If unit staff believes an inmate has been incorrectly assessed/has an incorrect PREA code. Any changes or updates must be accompanied with verifiable documents, reports or evidence.
   f. When staff identifies and inmate may be at risk of sexual abuse.

3. The reason for a PREA Risk Screen Review will be documented in the COMS PREA Risk Screen Comments section.

4. When scoring the risk screen on COMS and scoring a PREA risk screen item as a “YES”, it is mandatory the assessor put comments in the Question Comments Field of COMS documenting why an item was scored “YES”.

C. An initial PREA risk screen review must be completed within 72 hours of the inmate’s unit staff becoming aware of any of the above criteria (a.-f.) being met. Revisions or changes may be made anytime, including after 72 hours.

D. The PREA Inmate Admission & Review Screen Scoring Guide (See Attachment 3) will be used as a reference when completing the PREA Risk Screen Review.
5. PREA Screen Categories:

A. The PREA screen distributes inmates into four (4) institutional categories (See Attachment 3), with designations of:

1. VP (Victim Potential): Inmates designated by the PREA screen as having characteristics of an inmate with a higher than normal likelihood to be sexually assaulted inside an institution.
2. AP (Aggressor Potential): Inmates designated by the PREA screen as having characteristics of an inmate with a higher than normal likelihood to be sexually aggressive towards other inmates inside an institution.
3. MX (Mixed): Inmates designated by the PREA screen as having both an aggressor potential (AP) and a victim potential (VP).
4. NS (Not Scored): Inmates that did not fit into the criteria in the PREA Screen Score to be designated as a VP, AP or MX.

6. Utilization of the PREA Risk Screen score:

A. An inmate’s PREA risk screen score will be considered when assigning housing for the inmate to help separate inmates who are high risk for being sexually victimized from inmates assessed as high risk of being sexually abusive.

1. In barracks housing, an inmate’s PREA risk screen score will be taken into consideration to keep VP, MX, and AP inmates as separated as possible, given the lack of physical barriers in this type of housing environment. This may include bunking inmates with like risks at opposite sides of the barracks for other inmates with like risks or placing vulnerable inmates in areas with additional staff supervision/monitoring.

   Note: If an inmate’s PREA risk screen score can be accommodated consistent with the inmate’s custody classification and AIMS code, all should be used when making housing assignments.

2. Individualized facility, housing and programming decisions for transgender and intersex inmates must be made based on consideration of all information available at the time, including the inmate’s PREA Risk Screen score and individualized assessment. Placement shall be reviewed a minimum of twice a year and documented in COMS in the case notes.

B. Inmates’ PREA risk screen category cannot be used to override custody classification or AIMS classification (male inmates only—See DOC policy 1.4.B.3 Adult Internal Management System (AIMS)).

C. The inmate’s custody classification, criminal and disciplinary history, gender identity, medical and mental health needs, vulnerability to sexual victimization and likelihood of perpetrating abuse shall all be considered, in addition to the inmate’s PREA risk screen score when determining facility, housing and programming placement. In addition, facility-specific factors, including but not limited to, inmate population, staffing patterns and physical layout of the facility, may influence placement at a facility, housing area/unit and programming.

D. An inmate’s rights, privileges or custody levels may not be forfeited, changed, determined or affected on the basis of his/her assigned PREA screen score. Inmates may file a request for Administrative Remedy if they perceive the PREA risk screen process or their assigned PREA risk screen score causes detriment to them (See DOC policy 1.3.E.3 Administrative Remedy for Inmates).

E. Any inmate who has compelled or coerced another person, by force or threat of serious physical harm or death, to engage in any sexual act or sexual abuse, may be referred for Restrictive Housing (See DOC policy 1.3.D.4 Restrictive Housing).
7. **Cell/Room Assignment Based on PREA Risk Screen score:**

   A. PREA category impact on housing assignment:
      1. Inmates in the AP category can be housed with an AP or NS category inmate.
      2. Inmates in the VP category can be housed with a VP or NS category inmate.
      3. Inmates in the NS category can be housed with any category inmate.
      4. Inmates in the MX category can be housed with a MX or NS category inmate.

   B. Inmates with an AP code may not be housed with inmates with a VP or MX code.

8. **Programming / Education / Work Assignments Based on PREA Risk Screen score:**

   A. Screening information shall be used in informing an inmate’s programming, education or work assignments with the goal of keeping those inmates who are at high risk of being sexually victimized from those who are at high risk of being sexually abusive separated, as can reasonably be accomplished, or providing additional supervision to help minimize potential sexual abuse from occurring. At a minimum, unsupervised contact between vulnerable and potentially abusive inmates shall be minimized to the degree possible.

   B. Work supervisors and those providing education and programming to groups of inmates are responsible for knowing the identity of inmates assessed with victim potential and aggressor potential and providing necessary supervision to protect inmates from sexual abuse. If vulnerable and potentially abusive inmates are present in the area, at the same time, supervisors shall directly supervise the inmates.

      1. Inmates with a VP category may be placed in a program, education or work assignment with an AP of MX provided there is direct staff supervision.
      2. Inmates with a MX category may be placed in a program, education or work assignment with an AP or another MX provided there is direct staff supervision.
      3. Inmates with a NS category may be placed in a program, education or work assignment with an AP, VP, MX, or another NS without direct staff supervision.

**Related Directives:**

- DOC policy 1.3.E. 5 – Compliance with Prison Rape Elimination Act
- DOC policy 1.3.D.4 – Restrictive Housing
- DOC policy 1.3.E.3 – Administrative Remedy for Inmates
- DOC policy 1.4.A.2 – Inmate Admission
- DOC policy 1.4.A.3 – Sex Offender Management Program
- DOC policy 1.4.B.2 – Male Inmate Classification
- DOC policy 1.4.B.3 – Adult Internal Management System (AIMS)
- DOC policy 1.4.B.9 – Sexual Behavior Issues Review

**VI Revision Log:**

- **November 2013:** New policy.
- **April 2015:** Deleted “Admissions” from Section 2. Added “or providing appropriate supervision to prevent instances of abuse. Work supervisors and those providing education and programming to groups of inmates are responsible for knowing the identity of assigned inmates assessed with victim

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potential and aggressor potential and providing necessary supervision to protect inmates from sexual abuse." to Section 8 A.

**May 2016:** Deleted language in 1. and Replaced with 1. a. and b. in Section 4. A. Added “substantiated” in Section 4 A. 2. Added “and documented” in Section 4 A. 3. Deleted “SMI or SN Mental Health code” and Replaced with “COMS Mental Health Alert-No Move-Contact CBH code” in Section 4 B. 2. d. Added “Any changes or updates must be accompanied with verifiable and documented evidence” in Section 4 B. 2. e. Added 3 and 4 in Section 4 B. Added D. to Section 4.

**Revisions** to Attachment 3.

**January 2018:** Added “This information is also contained in the Inmate Living Guide, which inmates have access to upon admission to a DOC facility, either in printed format or via an issued tablet or kiosk” in Section 2 E. Added “The inmates’ score or any changes in score must be sent to the Committee prior to making recommendations for housing” in Section 4 B. 2. f. Added g. to Section 4 B. Added “with the goal being to keep separate as reasonably possible, those inmates at a high risk of being sexually victimized from those at high risk of being sexually abusive” in Section 6 A. Added “as possible, given the lack of physical barriers in this type of housing environment. This may include bunking inmates at opposite sides of the barracks or placing vulnerable inmates in areas more likely to receive staff supervision” in Section 6 A. 1. Deleted “An inmate with a history of sexually assaultive behavior may be referred for an Administrative Segregation hearing” and Replaced with “Any inmate who has compelled or coerced another person, by force or threat of serious physical harm or death, to engage in any sexual act or sexual abuse may be referred for a Restrictive Housing” in Section 6 E. Added 2. and 3. to Section 6 A. Added C. to Section 6 A. Added “Inmates may file a request for Administrative Remedy if they perceive the Risk Screen process or their PREA Risk Screen score causes detriment” in Section 6 D. Added “At a minimum, unsupervised contact between vulnerable and potentially abusive inmates shall be prohibited” in Section 8 A. Added “If vulnerable and potentially abusive inmates are present in the area at the same time, supervisors shall ensure heightened supervision and safeguards against sexual abuse and sexual harassment are implemented” in Section 8 B. Changes to Attachment 3.

**June 2018:** Reviewed with no changes.

**March 2020:** Reviewed with no changes.
Attachment 1: PREA Risk Screen

The **PREA Risk Screen** form is located on COMS under:

**Institutional Management: > Case Management > Assessments**

Under **Offender Assessments**

- Select **PREA Risk Screen** (fill in)

- Select **Questionnaire** (complete 4 Potential Aggressor Questions)
- Continue **Questionnaire** (complete 10 Potential Victim Questions)

- Continue **Questionnaire** (complete Aggressor/Victim Outcomes)
Attachment 2: PREA Risk Screen

The PREA Risk Screen form is located at:
M:\DOC\DOC Policies\Agency\DOC Policies\Attachment Templates\PREA Risk Screen.doc
Attachment 3: PREA Inmate Admission & Review Screen Scoring

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
PREA RISK SCREEN SCORING GUIDE

Three types of PREA Risk Screens

Initial (72 HR) PREA Risk Screen: All inmates newly admitted to the DOC will have an Initial PREA Risk Screen completed by trained facility Unit Staff within 72 hours of their arrival at the facility.

Admissions (30 Day) Risk Screen: All inmates newly admitted to the DOC will have an Admissions PREA Risk Screen completed by trained A&O Case Manager within 30 days of their arrival at the facility.

PREA Risk Screen Review: Reassess warranted due to a facility transfer, incident of sexual abuse, or receipt of additional information that bears on the inmate’s risk of sexual victimization or abusiveness.

Staff conducting the PREA Risk Screen shall implement appropriate controls on the dissemination of inmate information and responses to questions asked pursuant to this risk screen in order to ensure that sensitive information is not exploited to the inmate’s detriment by staff or other inmates.

POTENTIAL AGRESSOR:

1. Institutional incidents of sexually abusing other offenders

   Review NCIC, Mainframe for prior PREA Codes, and any institutional (DOC or jail) reports. File information when available.
   Ask inmate in interview. If reported as Yes, notify SOMP for follow up interview. HS/MH Review

   Initial or Admissions Interview question: Have you ever been involved in an incident where you sexually abused other inmates?

   For Reviews there has to be documented reports or other evidence. Revised inmate statements cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence from an accredited source.

2. Offender has prior acts of violent sexual abuse (non-institutional)

   Review NCIC, File information when available. Include offenses that were originally charges violent sex offense and plea bargained down at court* (refer to SOMP), Ask inmate in interview. If reported as Yes, notify SOMP for follow up interview.

   *Note: Only count sexual charges that plea bargained down to a lesser charge - do not count if the charge was dismissed or not prosecuted.

   Initial or Admissions Interview question: Have you ever been involved in an incident where you sexually abused other people outside of prison?

   For Reviews there has to be documented reports or other evidence. Revised inmate statements cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence from an accredited source.

3. Offender has prior felony convictions for violent offenses

   Review NCIC, Mainframe for prior felony incarcerations, use DOC Crime Codes & Classification for determination of violent offenses.

   Note: Count prior violent felony convictions only - do not count current charge or any misdemeanor offenses.

4. Offender has violence within institutional setting or jails

   Include any institutional (DOC or jail) reports.

   Initial or Admissions: If information not available yet, ask inmate.

   For Reviews there has to be documented reports or other evidence.
POTENTIAL VICTIM:

1. Presents or identities a mental, physical, or developmental disability
   Check the Alert Status in COMS for the Mental Health code of “No Move- Contact CBH - Support Living Environment - NOMOVE”, and interview staff can make referral to Mental Health based upon observation. Mental Health will make the final determination in writing. Health Services will make an individual determination if a person has a physical or developmental disability.

   *Note: Health Services should determine if an individual inmates’ physical limitation is significant enough to make him/her vulnerable to other inmates (not just sexual abuse). Is the inmate’s ability to protect themselves to the same level of other inmates, compromised by this disability?

2. History of prior sexual victimization (institutional)
   Check mainframe for prior PREA Codes. File information when available. Include all detention facilities. Ask inmate in interview. If reported as Yes, notify Mental Health for follow up interview.

   Initial or Admissions Interview question: Have you ever been a victim of sexual abuse in prison or jail?

   Note: Inmate admissions to sexual abuse victimization during the Initial or Admissions interview cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence supporting the change.

   For Reviews there has to be documented reports or other evidence. Revised inmate statements cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence from an accredited source.

3. History of prior sexual victimization (non-institutional)
   Review NCIC, Mainframe for prior incarcerations, use DOC Crime Codes & Classification for determination of violent offenses. Accredited sources can also be used. Examples of accredited sources: PSI, Treatment Needs Assessments, CD & SOMP Assessments, and/or psychosexual evaluations.

   Initial or Admissions Interview question: Have you ever been a victim of sexual abuse in the community?

   Note: Inmate admissions to sexual abuse victimization during the Initial or Admissions interview cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence supporting the change.

   For Reviews there has to be documented reports or other evidence. Revised inmate statements cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence from an accredited source.

4. Inmate is less than 21 years old or over 65 years old
   Check incoming or prior records on COMS. If information is not available yet, ask inmate.

5. Offender is of slight physical stature: Male: less than 5’6” and/or less than 140 lbs / Female: less than 5’ and/or less than 100 lbs
   Check incoming or prior records on COMS. If information is not available yet, ask inmate.

   Note: inmate needs to meet only one of these criteria; the inmate does not have to meet both.

6. Offenders first time incarcerated in prison.
   Review NCIC. File information when available.

   Initial or Admissions interview question: If information is not available yet, ask inmate.

   For Reviews there has to be documented reports or other evidence.

   Note: 1) This is only scored on offender’s first admission to a state or Federal facility.

   2) Inmates returning to prison after leaving prison on parole, probation or suspended sentence and having access to the community would not score.

   Example: A first time offender who has been released to the community (or on CTP with access to the community) and is returning on a parole violation would not score.

7. Criminal History is exclusively non-violent
   Review NCIC – include all (felony & misd.) convictions. File information when available. Use DOC Crime Codes & Classification for determination of violent offenses. If information is not available yet, ask inmate.
Note: All convictions - includes past and current.

8. Inmate is or is perceived to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or gender nonconforming

File information when available. Ask inmate in interview. Staff perception is based upon the interview with inmate and staff observation.

Must Ask Interview question: Are you gay/lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex or gender non-conforming?

9. Offender has current or prior convictions for sex offenses against a child or adult

If available review NCIC – include all (felony & misd.) convictions.

At Initial or Admissions: If information not available yet, ask inmate.

Note: Inmate admissions to current or prior sex offences during the Initial or Admissions interview cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence supporting the change.

For Reviews there has to be documented reports or other evidence. Revised inmate statements cannot be changed later unless there is documented evidence from an accredited source.

10. Offender believes he/she is vulnerable to being sexually victimized in the institution

This is only asked on the Initial or Admissions interview. The only time this will be asked in a Review is if the inmate is self-identifying as a transgender. Otherwise it will not be asked in a review situation.

Interview question: Do you believe yourself to be vulnerable to being sexually abused in prison?

NOTES: When scoring the Risk Screen on COMS and scoring a PREA RISK screen item as a “YES” it is mandatory that the assessor put comments in the Question Comments Field of COMS documenting why an Item was scored YES.

COMS screenshot example
Attachment 4: PREA Acknowledgement of Prevention of Sexual Abuse/Harassment Information

The PREA Acknowledgement of Prevention of Sexual Abuse/Harassment Information form is located at: M:\DOC\DOC Policies\Agency\DOC Policies\Attachment Templates\PREA Acknowledgement of Prevention Information.doc