

# RAMAS

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## Risk Assessment Management and Audit Systems

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# What is RAMAS

- Risk Assessment, Management and Audit Systems
- Developed in 1994/5 to achieve three key objectives:
  - ❖ to provide better protection for the public
  - ❖ to improve care planning, co-ordination and risk management of people at, or posing, risk
  - ❖ to enhance multi-agency co-ordination and communication

# What Does RAMAS Provide?

- RAMAS has been designed to:
  - ❖ provide retrospectively defensible care and risk management
  - ❖ ensure that people who pose a risk to themselves or to others have comprehensive health, social and personal needs assessment
  - ❖ ensure that a clear accurate and complete risk and care assessment is carried out
  - ❖ maximisation of the 'intelligence' through which robust risk and care management may be made.

# What Does RAMAS Provide?

- RAMAS has been designed to:
  - ◆ provide a common language for inter-agency communication and collaboration on risk and care
  - ◆ facilitate an integrated, co-ordinated, user friendly and positive approach to public safety and individual care
  - ◆ facilitate a portable standardised method which provides evidence based care, clear, shared goals and good practice

# What Does RAMAS Provide?

- RAMAS has been designed to:
  - ❖ Provide process and protocols for audit
  - ❖ include service users and their families/systems fully and collaboratively in the process
  - ❖ adhere to NSF, CPA and Human Rights policy and practice.

# To Whom Does it Apply?

- RAMAS is suitable for use by everyone who comes into contact with mental health, criminal justice, social service, housing and other agencies.
- As well as a generic risk assessment RAMAS measures 4 areas of risk specifically:
  - ◆ Risk to others
  - ◆ Mental Instability
  - ◆ Risk to Self
  - ◆ Vulnerability



# RAMAS Research

1996

Reliability and Validity :Pilots

1996-1998

Audit and Validation  
Training Programme

1998-2000

Psychometric Development  
Training Evaluation

2000-

Implementation Studies  
Profiling  
Training Evaluation

Website <http://www.ramas.co.uk/>

# RAMAS Training

- Royal College Accreditation
- Multi-agency, multi-disciplinary
- Service users and support workers
- Core competencies + SERO Project
- Ongoing Audit
  - ◆ 594 trained to date
    - 250 at level 1, 332 at level 2, 12 at level 3
  - ◆ 94% trainees rate it as 'excellent'
  - ◆ 96% reported an intention to use

# RAMAS Support and Practice Development

- RAMAS support network
- [www.ramas.co.uk](http://www.ramas.co.uk)
- Competency based training
- Audit and external review

# RAMAS User Focus

- RAMAS values and principles
- RAMAS Charter
- ‘Green Card’ discussions
- Work with Mental Health Foundation
- Personal Support Plans and Skills Assessment
- ‘Friends’ investment and support

# RAMAS Applications

- Forensic Inpatient: All levels
- Court Diversion
- Forensic Community
- Prison
- CMHT
- Substance Misuse
- Assertive Outreach
- Liaison Psychiatry
- PLD Services
- Sex Offender Programmes

# RAMAS Case Example

## Person with Learning Disabilities

- ◆ Single
- ◆ Male
- ◆ Aged 26
- ◆ Episodic Discontrol Syndrome
- ◆ Alcohol and Substance Misuse
- ◆ Violent Index Offence

# Lessons Learned

- There is no such thing as zero risk
- Risk is dynamic
- Risk occupies a lifespan timeframe
- Clear communication systems are needed
- Joint work is a means not an end in itself
- Involve people: Jigsaw
- Programmes should be based upon specific achievable and agreed outcomes.
- Clear and shared outcome indicators should be identified
- The need for joint management, monitoring and review.

# Lessons Learned

- The importance of:
  - ◆ Integration into CPA and other care management systems
  - ◆ engaging people in the process
  - ◆ 'Portable' care plans
  - ◆ Audit