

# **Towards Fail-Safe Management**

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“The greatest challenge for this new century is the need to move beyond traditional risk factors and prediction models to a framework for modern prevention science”

# Government Proposals

## RAMAS Response

- A first draft
- Your evidence base?
- Submit this to NICE
- Need to test both the safety and efficacy of any proposals
- Any option must be underpinned with robust measurement models
- Integrate and build on research, academic and clinical practice accomplishments
- Psychology should lead modern prevention science

# PREDICTION MODELS

## Four Methodological Problems

- Inadequacy of cues or factors
- Inability to determine the extent of risk in the population e.g. violence
- Limited applicability of research designs (rare events)
- Failure to co-ordinate research efforts in the field

Munro & Rungay 2000

Monahan & Steadman '96

# PREDICTION MODELS

## Problems in Practice

- Methodological Problems
  - Restricted range of cues or factors
  - Limited applicability of research design
  - Inability to establish base rates
  - Failures to co-ordinate research
  - Major investment limited clinical utility
- Ethical Problems
  - Prediction rates are extremely low
  - False positives → unnecessary detention
  - False negatives → no treatment
  - Civil liberties (Human Rights Act 1998)
  - Public perception of risk
- Clinical Problems
  - Patients don't like it
  - Threshold for intervention unsafe
  - Blocks dynamic, creative interactive practice
  - Focus on Figure(s) . . . loses peripheral vision

“Even a test with high sensitivity  
and specificity will produce a  
high number of false positives”.

# RAMAS Parameters

## Historical

Social / Developmental  
Mental Health  
General Health  
Neurological  
History of crime and  
violence

## Clinical

Symptoms  
Diagnosis(es)  
Functioning  
Substance Misuse  
Treatment(s)  
(Type, Progress / Adherence)

## Dispositional

Demography  
Personality  
    Style  
    Impulsivity  
    Emotional intelligence  
    Anti-social  
Neurology

## Contextual

Resources / supports  
Perceived stress  
Means / reasons for risk  
behaviour(s)