

SAPROF

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**Guidelines for the assessment of
protective factors for violence risk**



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The SAPROF is an assessment tool developed for the structured assessment of protective factors for violence risk. Following the SPJ model, the SAPROF was designed as a positive addition to SPJ risk assessment tools, such as the HCR-20, creating a more balanced assessment of risk for future (sexual) violence. The SAPROF aims to contribute to an increasingly accurate and well-rounded risk assessment. Moreover, the dynamic positive approach of protective factors aims to provide concrete guidelines for effective and achievable treatment interventions. The SAPROF can be a valuable tool for positive treatment planning, risk management and clinical evaluation.

Research on the SAPROF in The Netherlands shows good interrater reliability and good predictive validity for violent recidivism after treatment as well as for violent incidents during treatment. Results are equally good for violent as for sexual offenders. Moreover, observed changes during treatment in dynamic protective factor scores prove to be a good predictor for future recidivism. Frequent users of the SAPROF in forensic psychiatry comment that the tool is helpful in formulating treatment goals, atoning treatment phasing and facilitating risk communication.

Vivienne de Vogel, Corine de Ruiter, Yvonne Bouman and Michiel de Vries Robbé (2007) originally developed the SAPROF in Dutch. Subsequently, the tool was translated into several languages, including English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Swedish and Norwegian. To order the SAPROF guidelines you may contact Forum Educatief at: disc@forumeducatief.nl (www.forumeducatief.nl). For additional information about recent publications, workshops or future correspondence about the SAPROF, please contact the authors at: mdeviesrobbe@hoevenstichting.nl.