



## Use the Violence Assessment Tool (VAT)

### Assess the Risk

- A History of Violence
- Confused
- Irritable
- Boisterous
- Verbal Threats
- Physical Threats
- Agitated/Impulsive
- Paranoid/Suspicious
- Substance Intoxication/Withdrawal
- Socially Inappropriate/Disruptive
- Body Language
- Attacking Objects

### Rate the Risk

Each Yes = 1 pt.

- 0 pts =Low Risk;
- 1-3 pts =Moderate Risk;
- 4-5pts =High Risk;
- 6+ pts =Very High Risk

### Take Action

- Monitor and remain alert
- Communicate changes in behaviours that may put others at risk
- Initiative violence prevention care planning process
- Apply flag alerts
- Notify manager/supervisor
- Alert Security-assistance may be required
- Use effective therapeutic communication and de-escalation techniques
- Be prepared to apply behavioural management and self-protection techniques
- Initiate appropriate referrals if required
- Ensure communication devices/processes are in place
- Inform Client of VAT results when it is safe to do so
- Call 911 / Initiate Code White Response as necessary

### Involve the Client

- Ask the client to help us provide the best possible care by describing known triggers and ways to reduce these behaviours