



## **FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-GP31 SOA-R STUDY**

**Status:** Implementation Complete

### **Actions/Updates**

#### **2010 UPDATE**

*Implementation underway.* The agencies involved in the efforts of the Interagency Committee on Adult and Juvenile Correctional Treatment (IACAJCT) continue efforts to implement the study to determine the reliability and validity of the Standardized Offender Assessment-Revised (SOA-R). The Department of Corrections completed and published "An Evaluation Of The Use of the LSI-R with Colorado Inmates" on March 30, 2010. The LSI-R is one component of the SOA-R.

A subcommittee of the IACAJCT has been assembled for the purpose of continuing the work of validating and recommending revisions to the SOA-R. This subcommittee has developed a research design comprised of two phases. The goal of Phase I is to compare the psychometric properties of the Offender Treatment Matching Algorithm (OTMA) instrument and the Adult Substance Use Scale (ASUS).

The Northpointe Institute has been retained to assist with the data collection and analysis of the internal consistency, inter-rater reliability, and content validity and construct validity of these two instruments. Based on the results of this analysis, one of these instruments will be selected to use in combination with the LSI to place offenders into appropriate modalities of treatment. Phase II of the research will assess the effectiveness of this revised treatment matching protocol.

#### **2009 ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION**

This work is spearheaded by the Department of Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health, with the support of Justice Assistance Grant. Representatives from the responsible agencies meet regularly to review the progress of the consultant hired by DHS. DOC has agreed to oversee additional analyses, including the development of an algorithm to enhance the client-treatment referral system. DOC plans to pilot the new SOA-R and test the reliability of the instrument. DOC reports that a final technical report will be released in September 2009.

#### **2009 IMPACT**

The outcome of this project will be reported in the June 2010 Commission report.

### **Description**

The Commission supports the current work by the Interagency Committee on Adult and Juvenile Correctional Treatment and its study of the reliability and validity of the Standardized Offender Assessment-Revised (SOA-R).

### **Agencies Responsible**

Department of Human Services, Department of Public Safety (Office of Community Corrections, DCJ), Department of Corrections, Judicial Branch

### **Discussion**

*The implementation of this recommendation is underway. The SOA-R is an excellent example of evidence-based practice that has been underway in Colorado for many years. Improvement in the systematic substance abuse assessment of every Colorado offender furthers the Commission's statutory mandates to "...ensure justice...", enhance "the cost-effective use of public resources and "focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction initiatives..." [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(1)].*