

Tool 1 – Evidence-Based Supervision Practices

Who to Supervise?

Target Resources to Risk:

Supervision and treatment resources should be prioritized for those individuals who are moderate-, high-, or intensive-risk levels.

Use Risk Assessments:

Use a validated risk-assessment like the LS/RNR (See **RNA Tools Used in Utah** for more) to target supervision resources. In the absence of a validated risk assessment, the Central Eight Criminal Risk Factors and Responsivity Factors in **Addendum G** can help direct treatment to criminogenic need.

Avoid Placing Low-Risk Individuals in Intensive Programming

Placing low-risk and low-need individuals in programming with higher-risk individuals is an inefficient use of resources and can have the unintended consequence of increasing a low-risk individual's risk factors.

How to Supervise?

Be Responsive

The effectiveness of supervision depends on the individual's knowledge that their compliance or deviation from the behavior management plan will be met with a response. If a material behavior occurs without a response, compliance will decrease.

Responses Should be Swift, Certain, Consistent, Proportionate, Fair

- The effectiveness of a reward or a sanction decreases as more time passes following the behavior.
- Certainty of responses following behavior creates persistent deterrents and incentives.
- Responses that are proportionate and fair build trust in the process and increase compliance.
- Moderate responses are generally best.

Incentives vs. Sanctions



Behavioral research indicates positive reinforcement should be provided at a rate of 4:1 compared with negative reinforcement.