

Intake evaluation format for narrative report

Header: First name and surname, date and time of intake

First Section: Demographic information (including referral source)

Second Section: Chief complaint, symptom and diagnostic profile; full Mental Status Exam

If the client reports or the evaluator sees indications of current suicidal or homicidal ideation or inability to care for self or other dependents a full risk assessment is necessary (which includes risk and preventative factors). Include a safety plan if the risk assessment warrants one (i.e., conferring with senior clinician, safety contract, walk with client to psychiatric emergency department, etc.).

Third Section: Trauma and psychiatric history. Record past history as it relates to PSOT acceptance criteria and to applicant's current level of functioning.

Fourth Section: Medical and medication history.

Fifth Section: Summary assessment.

Sixth Section: DSM-IV-TR Axial Diagnosis

Seventh Section: Provisional service plan. Services should be listed in order of priority.

Torture Classification

Convention against Torture, United States (18 USC 2340(1), 1998): "torture" means an act committed by a person acting under the color of law specifically intended to inflict severe physical or mental pain or suffering (other than pain or suffering incidental to lawful sanctions) upon another person within his custody or lawful control.

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, United Nations (1984): the term "torture" means any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions.

Declaration of Tokyo, World Medical Association (1978): torture is defined as the deliberate, systematic or wanton infliction of physical or mental suffering by one or more persons acting alone or on the orders of any authority, to force another person to yield information, to make a confession, or for any other reason.

Survivor of War Trauma: Someone who has been traumatized through the violation of their human rights, organized violence, armed conflict, or low intensity war, regardless of whether or not they were a combatant or noncombatant.

Torture Screening Checklist, Revised (TSCL-R)

The following is a guide for clinicians to collect relevant information to help determine whether or not an interviewee qualifies as tortured or exposed to war trauma under international statutes. It is based on United States Torture Victims Relief Act (TVRA; 18 USC 2340(1)) and the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT).

1. Interviewee in a situation in which someone in a government or other organized authority, acting under "color of law," intentionally hurt him/her in any way?

- Yes, act(s) by authorities/person(s) operating under "color of law"
 No

1a. *IF "No"*: Did any authority know that someone might hurt interviewee and ignore this information?

- With the consent or acquiescence of a public official
 With the consent or acquiescence of a person acting in an official capacity
 No
 Don't know

2. Who perpetrated the acts? (specify; e.g., "state police," not "government"): _____

3. In what country did this happen? _____

4. Where did this take place? (Check all that apply)

- 4a. Police station
4b. Jail, prison or detention center
4c. Military base or camp
4d. Compound
4e. Hospital
4f. School
4g. Home
4h. Public space (e.g., street, public park, athletic arena)
4i. Other: _____

5. Was the interviewee in the custody of or under the physical control of the actor(s) described in 1?

- Yes
 No

IF "Yes": 5a. Explain answer:

6. Describe acts:

7. Were these acts deliberate or intentional?

- Yes
 No

8. What was the purpose of the acts? (check all that apply)

- 8a. Obtaining information
- 8b. Confession of guilt (whether real or false)
- 8c. Punishment for something he/she did
- 8d. Punishment for something alleged but not done
- 8e. Intimidation of self
- 8f. Intimidation of someone else
- 8g. Other reason based on discrimination: _____
- 8h. Other reason: _____
- 8i. Interviewee reports that he/she does not know

9. Did the acts result in severe pain or suffering?

- Yes
- No

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9a. Was the harm (physical or mental) prolonged, extending over a long period of time?

- Yes
- No

IF "Yes": 9a.1. Explain answer (include length of time and how harm was extended):

9b. Did the harm have its source in:

9b.1. The infliction of severe physical pain or suffering?

- Yes No

9b.2. The threatened infliction of severe physical pain or suffering?

- Yes No

9b.3. The forced administration or application of psychoactive drugs or other psychological procedures designed to disrupt profoundly the senses or the personality?

- Yes No

9b.4. Death threats made against the person, where death is made to appear imminent?

- Yes No

9b.5. Threats made against others of imminent death, severe physical pain or suffering, or forced administration or application of psychoactive drugs or psychologically disruptive procedures?

- Yes No

10. Were the acts intended by the perpetrator to cause severe pain or suffering?

- Yes
- No

IF "Yes": 10a. Explain answer (include how intention is inferred):

11. Did the perpetrator specifically target the interviewee? I.e., the interviewee was *not* only one of several persons randomly subjected to the act(s).

- Yes
 No

IF “Yes”: 11a.1. Explain answer (include how targeting is inferred):

12. Did the acts occur as part of a legal punishment for something he/she did? (I.e., does what happened to him/her happen as part of *legally sanctioned* punishment for the alleged crime in that country? Answering this may involve knowledge of foreign legal codes.)

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
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SCORING

If “Yes” to 1, at least one of 4a-4f, 5, 7, 9a *and* at least one from 9b.1-5, 11, and “No” to 12, then individual meets criteria for **United States Torture Victims Relief Act**, 18 USC 2340(1).

If “Yes” to 1 *or* 1a, *and* “yes” to 7, at least one of 8a-8g, and 9, and “No” to 12, then individual meets criteria for **United Nations Convention Against Torture**.