

MULTI AGENCY MARAC REFERRAL FORM

MARAC does not absolve professionals from undertaking their duties to reduce the risk to victims or sharing information with statutory and support networks. There are local responsibilities to support Domestic Abuse victims and perpetrators and appropriate referrals to these services can and should be made prior to the MARAC meetings.

The referring agency is required to attend the MARAC to present the case, if this is not possible please provide details of the agency representative who will attend and present the case on your behalf (they must be fully informed of up to date information at the date of the meeting).

Referring agency:				
Referrers name(s):				
Telephone/email:				
Date:				
Victim name:		Victim DOB:		
Address:				
Telephone number:				
Is this number safe to call?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>			
Please provide any relevant information regarding contact:				
Diversity Data (if known):	B&ME <input type="checkbox"/>	Disabled <input type="checkbox"/>	LGBT <input type="checkbox"/>	
Perpetrator(s) name:		Perpetrator(s) DOB:		
Perpetrator(s) address:		Relationship to victim:		
Children (please add extra rows if necessary)				
Name	DOB	Relationship to victim	Relationship to perpetrator	Address (if different to victim)

RISK ASSESSMENT FACTORS

Professional Judgement:	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Visible high risk (14 ticks or more on Safe Lives - DASH RIC)	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Potential Escalation:	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
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REASON FOR REFERRAL/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Reason for Referral:	
IDVA ?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Is the victim aware of MARAC referral?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>
Has agreement to share information been given?	Verbal <input type="checkbox"/> Signed <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Ask the victim to sign below or indicate if verbal consent has been obtained.</p> <p>Please explain that regardless of agreement being refused, if there are life threatening or child protection issues this information will be shared under the conditions of data protection legislation of compliance with legal obligations, protection of vital interests, and/or performance of a task carried out in the public interest.</p> <p>It has been explained to me that this information will be shared with partner agencies. I understand that relevant and essential information whether medical or otherwise concerning myself or my children may be shared with partner agencies including the Local Authority, Police, Probation, Health and Housing for the purpose of MARAC and to help secure my safety and that of my family.</p> <p>Date:</p> <p>Signature:.....</p>	
<p>If No Consent given, and/or the victim has not been informed of the referral, consider sharing information under GDPR, Data Protection Act 2018, Human Rights, and Common Law and in the interests of public safety. A practitioner can share information lawfully if it is to keep a child or individual at risk safe from neglect or physical, emotional or mental harm, or if it is protecting their physical, mental or emotional well-being. (GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018)</p> <p>Data Protection and Caldecott guidelines should be considered jointly when sharing information.</p>	
Has Information Sharing Without Notifying the Victim been completed?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>

CRITERIA FOR REFERRING A CASE TO MARAC

Confidential (when completed)

There are four criteria for a referral to Marac;

Visible High Risk

This is an assessment based on actuarial data, involving the use of risk indicators to assess the probability of serious harm or homicide. For domestic abuse cases, the number of 'yes' answers on the DASH usually determines the level of risk.

SafeLives recommends that 14 'yes' answers on the Dash should result in a referral to MARAC. However, completing the DASH is not a simple 'tick box' exercise and, even where there is a lower number of ticks, professional judgement should be used to inform the overall assessment of risk. In addition, professional judgement should not be used to 'downgrade' an actuarial risk assessment.

Professional Judgement

Professional judgement involves an assessment of dangerousness based on an individual practitioner's consideration of a situation but will naturally use the information from the DASH checklist to inform this judgement. However, in addition to using the DASH it is crucial that professionals use their full range of knowledge to make an assessment; this knowledge will usually be gained through experience, reflection and deliberation. This form of assessment relies heavily on the skill and experience of the practitioner in order to make an informed decision of likely risk.

In domestic abuse settings, professional judgement will be informed by the practitioner's knowledge of domestic abuse and its manifestations.

Referrals to MARAC can be made based solely on professional judgement. However, it is the practitioner's responsibility to articulate what their concerns are and the reasons for the referral.

Potential Escalation

The potential for escalation can be assessed by looking at the frequency and/or severity of abuse.

It is common practice for services to determine there is a potential for serious harm or homicide when three domestic abuse events have been identified in a 12-month period. For example, three attendances at A&E, three police call outs or three calls to make housing repairs. This should alert professionals to the need to consider a referral to MARAC.

Repeat Referral

SafeLives defines a 'repeat' as ANY instance of abuse between the same victim and perpetrator(s), within 12 months of the last referral to MARAC.

The individual act of abuse does not need to be 'criminal', violent or threatening but should be viewed within the context of a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour.

Some events that might be considered a 'repeat' incident may include, but are not limited to:

- Unwanted direct or indirect contact from the perpetrator and/or their friends or family
- A breach of police or court bail conditions
- A breach of any civil court order between the victim and perpetrator
- Any dispute between the victim and perpetrator(s) including over child contact, property, divorce/ separation proceedings etc.

These events could be disclosed to any service or agency including, but not exclusive to, health care practitioners (including mental health), domestic abuse specialists, police, substance misuse services, housing providers etc.