



## APPLICATION OF THE SPDAT TO VARIOUS PRESENTING ISSUES:

### Self-care and Daily Living Skills

1. Doug lives next door to a coffee shop. He uses the coffee shop's bathroom to wash up and take care of daily functions. His own bathroom is unusable ever since he moved a pile of clothes into the room about a year ago. What score in the Self-Care and Daily Living Skills section of the SPDAT best describes Doug?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Doug can only be a 3 or a 4 because there is hoarding/collecting involved. Leaning towards a 4 for this one results from the fact that his bathroom has become unusable. However, it may be necessary to investigate further with Doug to determine his level of awareness of the hoarding/issue and its impact on his life.*

2. Donna told you she was a "neat freak" before you housed her. When you helped her move in, she was working alongside you to scrub and clean her apartment. Over the past month or so, she has been feeling depressed. Dishes have been piling in the sink. A garbage pile is growing in one corner of the kitchen. She seems to be wearing the same pajamas each time you visit with her. What score in the Self-Care and Daily Living Skills section of the SPDAT best describes Donna?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: In Donna's current state she is not taking care of herself.*

3. Ivan keeps his apartment impeccably clean. His dishes are always washed. He has clean clothes in his drawers. He undertakes grocery shopping successfully. He has access to laundry facilities. He bathes daily. Ivan has a "lucky" pair of underpants, socks, jeans and t-shirt which he wears daily. He does not wash them. They are dirty, smelly and threadbare. He worries that putting on other clothes will result in his luck running out and losing his apartment. What score in the Self-Care and Daily Living Skills section of the SPDAT best describes Ivan?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Ivan is taking care of himself and able to meet daily living needs, except in regards to his clothing. Assistance will sometimes be required to assist Ivan in this aspect of his life.*

4. Suzie wears a different outfit each time you meet with her. She likes to show you the new things she has picked up at the Thrift Clothing Store each time you visit her. Meanwhile, piles of dirty clothes, over the past few months, have expanded outside of her bedroom and into the hallway. You have offered to help her with laundry, and she declines your offer every time saying she will take care of it when she is ready to do so. What score in the Self-Care and Daily Living Skills section of the SPDAT best describes Suzie?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Suzie may be hoarding clothes, or she may be unable to finish her laundry without assistance. In either case, she may require frequent assistance to take care of this aspect of her life.*

5. Michael keeps his place very tidy. He cleans up promptly after meals. He puts everything away after it has been used. There are never dishes in the sink. All the same, he tells you of problems with different pests – ants, roaches, mice – that he says he sees frequently and does his best to take care of them. You have never seen any of the pests, though you have



seen insect and mouse traps. What score in the Self-Care and Daily Living Skills section of the SPDAT best describes Michael?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: Michael is living independently and is able to meet his daily living needs. He has demonstrated a proactive approach to dealing with his claimed pest problem by keeping his apartment tidy and putting out traps.*

### **Meaningful Daily Activity**

6. Carlos attends court ordered anger management two days per week. He hates attending and goes only because he has to. The rest of the time he stays in his apartment to, according to him, “stay out of trouble”. What score in the Meaningful Daily Activity section of the SPDAT best describes Carlos?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Court ordered sessions are not considered a meaningful daily activity, and in any case do not provide Carlos with a sense of fulfillment. Carlos has no other activities that he engages in, and the time he spends in his apartment is motivated by a desire to avoid trouble, rather than any enjoyment he might get from being at home.*

7. Veronica was invited to a community church by one of her neighbors. She enjoys the Sunday Service, gets out to bible study two evenings a week, visits seniors three afternoons a week, and helps out with the community meal the church puts on once per week. What score in the Meaningful Daily Activity section of the SPDAT best describes Veronica?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: Veronica has volunteer activities that provide her with fulfillment for every day of the week.*

8. Carson loves his laptop. He is a self-described Twitter and Facebook addict. He takes pictures in the community and posts them on Flickr. He spends at least an hour per day on the Star Trek chat room. He attends two online AA meetings per day and takes great pride that he helps facilitate four of the online AA sessions each week. Very happy with his frugality and ability to find a bargain, Carson uses Kijiji, eBay, GroupOn and other services to find the best possible prices for the things he needs. Carson’s community is entirely online. What score in the Meaningful Daily Activity section of the SPDAT best describes Carson?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: Carson has numerous activities that provide him with personal fulfillment, and these activities occupy most days of the week. The fact that these activities occur online is irrelevant.*

9. Henry goes to the library every morning to read the paper. He is pleasant to the librarians, but otherwise sticks to himself. On the way home, he stops in for a late morning coffee at the local coffee shop. He spends his afternoon reading. He has told you he would like to find something else to do in the afternoons and evenings, which he says are lonely, so long as he can keep his mornings just as he likes them. What score in the Meaningful Daily Activity section of the SPDAT best describes Henry?

*Suggested Score: 1 or 2*

*Rationale: Henry has fulfilling activities that occupy some parts of his day, some days of the week. However, his afternoon and evening activities are not meaningful and do not bring him the*



level of personal satisfaction that he may be seeking. Exploration on the degree of personal satisfaction is necessary to most appropriately score this component.

10. Phyllis, two weeks ago, started volunteering at the animal shelter three mornings a week. She walks up to five dogs per morning and changes the kitty litter. What score in the Meaningful Daily Activity section of the SPDAT best describes Phyllis?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Phyllis is attempting meaningful volunteer activities for most days of the week. It will be necessary to follow-up Phyllis to discern her level of personal satisfaction with these new activities.*

### **Social Relationships and Networks**

11. Debbie belongs to a sex worker support group. They meet at least once a week to talk about their work, safety, bad dates, etc. and have been doing so for almost a year. Debbie considers these people to be like sisters to her. When she does escort, she most frequently is with another lady from the support group, and they will often grab a coffee after a date and chat. Even when not working, these ladies are the people that Debbie is most likely to go shopping with, hang out with or watch a movie with. While only an occasional drug user, Debbie will only get high with these people. Debbie believes these are the best friends for her because they understand her without judgment. What score in the Social Relationships and Networks section of the SPDAT best describes Debbie?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: Debbie's has friendships as she would like them, and these have lasted for more than 6 months. Note that many people will think that this should be something other than 0 because the friends come through her engagement with sex work. It is important to de-link social relationships and networks from high risk and exploitive activities. Also, Debbie's friendships are not unlike other people that find great friendships and support in his/her work environment.*

12. Emmanuel is agoraphobic. He does not like going to places where there are crowds of people. He finds that he feels best when he stays in his apartment. He loves his computer and spends about 7 hours per day in chat rooms, chatting with people he has met in chat rooms, on Facebook, and engaging in discussion through Twitter. None of the people he engages with online live in the same city he does. What score in the Social Relationships and Networks section of the SPDAT best describes Emmanuel?

*Suggested Score: 1 or 2*

*Rationale: It will be important to discern from Emmanuel if the people he is chatting with are the same people over and over again (established friendships) or whether these are relatively new engagements.*

13. Keith meets up with the same group of people, more or less, at around 5pm Monday through Saturday at the same pub. He knows their first names, a bit about what they do for a living, but otherwise spend a couple hours every day talking about sports, politics and the economy. He has been doing this for half a year. Every time a member of the group has suggested they do something else together like go to a game, go fishing, go to dinner or visit at their home, Keith politely declines. He does not want anything more than the relationship he currently has with them – at least not for now. What score in the Social Relationships and Networks section of the SPDAT best describes Keith?

*Suggested Score: 2*



Rationale: Keith's friendships are most likely in an early stage of development because he does not know more than first names and conversation tends to remain focused on non-personal matters.

14. Jean keeps to herself, and claims she has liked it that way since she lost her son more than a decade ago. She has refused all of your offers to help her join clubs or meet others with similar interests. When at appointments in the community she is impeccably polite and socially aware. She treats you with respect when you do home visits or accompany her in the community, and says you are the first person who has accepted her shyness. What score in the Social Relationships and Networks section of the SPDAT best describes Jean?

Suggested Score: 3

Rationale: Jean has no meaningful social relationships or networks. Although she currently has a good relationship with professionals.

15. Oscar had been living alone for four months. Then his aunt and two cousins came from out of town to stay with him. Since that time Oscar has been disengaged from case planning and has steadily missed appointments. He says that he loves having his aunt around and his cousins too, though he can be frustrated when they drink his beer or eat his food. Occasionally he has called you after a big fight with them; but chalks the conflict up to being part of a "normal" family. What score in the Social Relationships and Networks section of the SPDAT best describes Oscar?

Suggested Score: 4

Rationale: Although Oscar may be satisfied with his family relationship, it is actually having negative consequences on his life. This has more to do with the "big fights" than the consumption of the beverages or food. He does not seem aware that his family members may be exploiting him.

### **Mental Health and Wellness & Cognitive Functioning**

16. Kim was told she was "slow" when she was in elementary school. She did not complete high school, and struggles to read beyond a Grade 4 level. A survivor, she has gravitated to others in her adult life that can help her get by day to day. Some roommates and boyfriends have taken advantage of her financially throughout the years, though most often the fact that she has been used has to be brought to her attention by her brother or a case worker. What score in the Mental Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Kim?

Suggested Score: 3

Rationale: Kim has significantly diminished cognitive functions that are having an ongoing negative impact on her daily life.

17. Clay has indicated to you that he has schizoid personality disorder. He sees a psychotherapist weekly and has been actively participating in a new group therapy program recently started by his psychotherapist. He also attends an outpatient "Sharing is Caring" group on Saturday mornings. He feels he has his mental health under control, that the therapy is very helpful in staying focused daily and that he is connected to the resources that help him stay focused on wellness. He has worked with you and his psychotherapist to develop a wellness plan. What score in the Mental Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Clay?

Suggested Score: 1



Rationale: Clay is actively engaged with professional assistance, and is in a heightened state of recovery and self-awareness.

18. Tiffany, during some home visits, seems agitated and confused, engaged in a narrative that seems nonsensical. During other home visits she is entirely focused and engaged in the conversation and goal setting. It is inconsistent. On the days she seems agitated she appears tired and the apartment tends to be messy. On the days she is focused, she appears well rested and the apartment is generally clean. What score in the Mental Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Tiffany?

Suggested Score: 3

Rationale: Tiffany has observed mental health issues or cognitive impairments. The impact on her life is more than minimal, but clearly has negative consequences. Her condition appears to be untreated, and she may require further investigation from a qualified professional.

19. Alex moved into his apartment four months ago. Increasingly, when you visit him he tells you that the neighbors are trying to poison him by putting powder in his food when he isn't looking. He is also convinced that when renovations were occurring next door that the landlord put heat sensors and microphones in the walls to track his movements and listen in on his conversations. He would like you to find a new place for him to live where the apartment is made of brick or cinder blocks, without windows, and with a steel door. If you don't do it in the next couple of weeks, Alex says he will either be killed by the poison or be forced to kill himself so that people don't get the information they want out of him. What score in the Mental Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Alex?

Suggested Score: 4

Rationale: Alex has serious and persistent mental health issues that are greatly impacting his day-to-day living, and in particular, may lead to self-harm.

20. Susan has told you that she has difficulty with her anger and outbursts because her mother drank when she was pregnant. Susan tells you that her two sisters have been diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, though she is adamant – and your layperson observation would concur – that the facial characteristics of a person with FASD are not readily seen on Susan's face. Though you have offered to help her work through an FASD assessment, Susan does not want to do so because she has seen how others treat her sisters. What score in the Mental Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Susan?

Suggested Score: 2

Rationale: A mental health issues and/or impairment of cognitive functioning is suspected, but there is no formal diagnosis. The impact on daily living appears minimal, but more evidence is needed to discern the consequences of Susan's anger outbursts.

### **Physical Health and Wellness**

21. Davis was told by a doctor that it is just "jock itch", but Davis remains convinced that it is crabs that he got from a date a couple of weeks ago. While the doctor prescribed an anti-fungal cream to help the "jock itch" go away, Davis refuses to fill the prescription or follow the treatment plan because he is convinced that it will do no good for the crabs he is convinced that he has. Davis wants you to find the money for him to see a naturopathic doctor, which he has become convinced will provide better care for what is happening to him. What score in the Physical Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Davis?

Suggested Score: 3



Rationale: Davis has a minor health concern, but has chosen to not connect with appropriate professional resources. Davis is not following a treatment protocol and his health concern will continue until he does.

22. Paula is diabetic. She monitors her blood sugars carefully. She follows the prescribed diet put together by the hospital dietician. She self-administers insulin as necessary and she charts and tracks her care. She belongs to a diabetics support group and keeps all of her doctors appointments. What score in the Physical Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Paula?

*Suggested Score: 1*

Rationale: Paula has a chronic health condition, but has a clear understanding of her health needs and is following her treatment protocol. She is connected with professional resources.

23. Dustin seems to have a new physical ailment to tell you about each time you visit. He has considerable detail about each ailment, can tell you what the diagnosis is using the medical (and often Latin) terminology, how it should be treated, and what medication should be prescribed. More than a dozen times you have accompanied Dustin to doctor appointments or the Emergency Room, and in each instance there is no confirmation of an illness. What score in the Physical Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Dustin?

*Suggested Score: 0*

Rationale: Dustin has no confirmed physical health ailments.

24. Gary has a rare blood disorder. The town he lives in does not have the special equipment needed to conduct the ongoing required tests, nor to perform transfusions, which are part of the treatment regime. Gary, in his 60s, in his own words has had a “rough life” and while appreciative of your offer to help facilitate getting to the city to get the care he needs, would prefer to just let the illness run its course, and if he passes away, so be it. What score in the Physical Health and Wellness section of the SPDAT best describes Gary?

*Suggested Score: 4*

Rationale: Gary has a chronic and complex health concern that is not being treated, nor is he connected to professional resources.

25. Kate uses drugs through injection. She has Hep C. She has infections and abscesses on a fairly regular basis. When that happens and IV antibiotics are needed, she will wait as long as possible before going to the hospital because she is most often admitted for a day or two (making it difficult to use), she feels stigmatized by medical staff, and she is frustrated by doctors and nurses struggling to find veins that won't readily collapse. What score in the Physical Health and Wellness section of the SDPAT best describes Kate?

*Suggested Score: 3*

Rationale: Kate has a chronic health condition that requires intensive health supports, but there is difficulty in implementing the treatment protocol. Kate may not see the total value of wellness.

### **Substance Use**

26. Maria usually parties for two or three days after she gets her cheque each month. During those two or three days she most often consumes a case of beer, two bottles of vodka and as much Percocet she can afford. The rest of the month, while Maria may have a drink or two per week or the occasional joint when friends offer it to her, she does not tend to consume to



the point of inebriation. What score in the Substance Use section of the SPDAT best describes Maria?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Maria's binge drinking and drug use is limited to once per month, and while she is inebriated for these days the impact on daily functioning is infrequent. Other use is well within consumption thresholds.*

27. Christopher is known to just about everyone in town. Shortly after lunchtime he gets a bottle of mouthwash to drink. He then proceeds to hang around downtown, most frequently alone, but panhandling, asking people passing by for cigarettes and making unwelcome comments to those who refuse his requests. Several times per week, on days when he gets enough money for a second bottle, he tends to pass out outside, regardless of the weather. What score in the Substance Use section of the SPDAT best describes Christopher?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Christopher is using non-palatable alcohol on a daily basis. His alcohol use often leads him to the point of passing out.*

28. Jim likes to unwind every evening with three cans of beer before he goes to bed. He says it helps him sleep. What score in the Substance Use section of the SPDAT best describes Jim?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Jim exceeds the daily maximum consumption threshold of two drinks a day on a regular basis.*

29. Cathy used to have a dependence to sedatives. Eight months ago, she was accepted into a study that provides controlled use of cannabis and is monitored for the effectiveness of marijuana in helping to recover from the sedative dependence. What score in the Substance Use section of the SPDAT best describes Cathy?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: In this instance the cannabis would be considered a prescription, and is not included as a "drug" for the purpose of this component.*

30. Greer had been regularly attending AA meetings and working with her sponsor for five months. After her sponsor had a relapse, Greer declared that the program of meetings and sponsors was a fraud. Instead she works the Big Book on her own, dismissing all aspects of the program that she doesn't agree with. She likes to keep alcohol in her apartment since she stopped going to meetings saying it increases her willpower to have it around and not use it. On bad days she likes to pour a glass, hold it, sniff it and even bring it to her lips but has not consumed it. She says it calms her down. What score in the Substance Use section of the SPDAT best describes Greer?

*Suggested Score: 1*

*Rationale: Greer does not use drugs, and does not exceed maximum daily thresholds for alcohol. Most importantly, Greer is practicing abstinence and has achieved sobriety for more than 14 days.*

### **Medication**

31. Carly has chronic back pain. She can take up to four pills per day, as prescribed by her doctor. On the days when the pain is too overbearing she takes 8 or 12 and will buy



additional pills from a “friend”. What score in the Medication section of the SPDAT best describes Carly?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Carly takes her pills improperly from time to time, exceeding the prescribed threshold.*

32. Jerome experiences migraine headaches. When he feels one coming on he takes four or five Tylenol, closes the blinds and tries to sleep. What score in the Medication section of the SPDAT best describes Jerome?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: Over the counter medications are not considered in this component. More investigation is needed, as Jerome’s use of Tylenol may be excessive. The use of over the counter medication in ways other than what it is intended for may be considered under Substance Use.*

33. Matthew has a prescription for OxyContin to help alleviate his chronic pain. This particular prescription allows for one pill every eight hours, as needed. On average, Matthew consumes five pills per day. His girlfriend also likes to have one before she goes to bed every day. What score in the Medication section of the SPDAT best describes Matthew?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: The medication is not being used as prescribed.*

34. Barb lives with depression and, last month, had her dosage of Cymbalta changed from 60mg per day to 90mg per day. She reports that this has really helped her mood and management of symptoms. What score in the Medication section of the SPDAT best describes Barb?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Barb has had her medication changed in the past month. The effects and routine of the new regime have not been fully worked out, but are not having a debilitating impact on her functioning.*

35. Hailey has a rule that she does not take her psychotropic meds on weekends when she is drinking because the combination makes her feel too “off” and “cramps her buzz”. Monday through Thursday she takes her meds at the right times and as prescribed, never forgetting a dosage. What score in the Medication section of the SPDAT best describes Hailey?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Hailey is failing to take her medication three days a week.*

### **Personal Administration and Money Management**

36. Joseph was excited when he got his TV and cable. For the past three months he has raked up very large bills from movies and UFC pay per view. His aunt helped him pay off the first two but has vowed not to do it again. Joseph has stated he shouldn’t have to pay for the movies and UFC because it is his girlfriend and friends that have been ordering them and not him. He thinks the cable company should send his girlfriend and other friends a bill – not him. Joseph is refusing to pay the bill. What score in the Personal Administration and Money Management section of the SPDAT best describes Joseph?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Joseph does not have enough money to cover his bills from the previous month. Most importantly, he does not comprehend why his bills are so high.*



37. Marge has two adult children that both live with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Each month when she gets her cheque for \$1,150 she pays her rent and utilities and turns the remainder of the money to her children. She says this is the least she can do for them given what she did to them. She relies on church donations and the food bank to get through the rest of the month. It is not uncommon near the end of the month for her to stretch one can of tuna out over three days. What score in the Personal Administration and Money Management section of the SPDAT best describes Marge?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Marge manages most of her finances independently, but requires frequent assistance to make ends meet.*

38. Steven has his brother manage his finances. The brother pays the rent, utilities and cable each month, and sets aside \$75 a week for groceries and cigarettes. When Steven gets the grocery money, he likes to take his girlfriend out to dinner or buy beer rather than buy groceries. He refuses to work with you to create a budget for the \$75 a week. What score in the Personal Administration and Money Management section of the SPDAT best describes Steven?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Steven requires intensive assistance to manage his finances, and cannot create or follow a monthly budget.*

39. Marnie has literacy and numeracy issues. She cannot comprehend or complete forms – regardless of how simple – and relies on her caseworker to help fill out all forms. Attempts at budgeting thus far have proven to be very difficult given Marnie’s numeracy issues. What score in the Personal Administration and Money Management section of the SPDAT best describes Marnie?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Marnie always requires intensive assistance in filling out forms and following a budget.*

40. Ben is often taken advantage of by younger men in the neighborhood. For example, they will tell Ben they will get him cigarettes, but then not return the change; they will ask for a small loan of \$50 and then deny that they took the loan; etc. Ben says he doesn’t mind and that the guys are just looking out for him, though he relies on meal programs and a church to get by each month and often runs out of cigarettes. What score in the Personal Administration and Money Management section of the SPDAT best describes Ben?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Ben likely requires assistance in budgeting, and requires frequent assistance making ends meet each month.*

### **Abuse and/or Trauma**

41. Mandy left her last apartment a few months ago because, when drunk, her boyfriend (and father of her two children that have been in care since birth) would get rough with her. Mandy does not want to connect with any domestic violence services; she simply wants an apartment that her boyfriend won’t know about. What score in the Abuse and/or Trauma section of the SPDAT best describes Mandy?

*Suggested Score: 4*



Rationale: Mandy is experiencing abuse or trauma that is causing her current period of homelessness.

42. Peter lived with his parents until he was almost 30. As a person with a brain injury, he saw their care and support as invaluable. The fact of the matter, however, is that his parents did not provide him with any income nor did they connect him with any income supports or community resources. Peter spent most of the day being told to stay in the basement where there was no TV or radio, nor was there anything to read or activities to engage upon. Not long after the death of his parents, Peter found himself homeless. What score in the Abuse and/or Trauma section of the SPDAT best describes Peter?

Suggested Score: 0

Rationale: Peter has a history of abuse from his parents, which is severely limiting his present functioning or ability. However, his self report indicates he found them to be invaluable. A&T relies solely on self report. It may be helpful to get Peter engaged with a specialist in A&T nonetheless.

43. Ann lived with Brian for several years. Brian would not let Ann work outside of the home. When the monthly cheque came in, Brian would have Ann sign it over to him so that he could manage their finances. Ann never had any money of her own to use as she chose. If ever she needed money, even for basic needs, she would have to ask Brian. The answer was frequently “no”. Brian rarely let Ann go shopping alone, and if he did have her go out to get something, demanded to see the receipt and counted the change. Brian passed away two months ago, which caused Ann’s homelessness. Ann says that she misses all that Brian did for her. What score in the Abuse and/or Trauma section of the SPDAT best describes Ann?

Suggested Score: 3

Rationale: Ann has a history of abuse that is severely limiting her present functioning or ability. No attempt at therapeutic recovery has been made.

44. Wally is 18 and left home last year. Wally is public about being gay, but says neither his father nor mother would accept who he was. From the time he was 14 and told his parents he thought he was different, they would publicly pray for him daily, refused to let him engage with any male friends, reviewed any books he brought into the house, would not let him use the computer without supervision, and left brochures for Wally to read about how to become straight. What score in the Abuse and/or Trauma section of the SPDAT best describes Wally?

Suggested Score: 1

Rationale: Wally’s previous experience with abuse is not having serious consequences on his present functioning or ability.

45. Cindy, last year, watched her husband of eight years get stabbed to death in a bar fight. She became homeless within a few months of the event. She has not wanted to engage with anyone to talk about what happened. What score in the Abuse and/or Trauma section of the SPDAT best describes Cindy?

Suggested Score: 3 or 4

Rationale: Cindy has experienced a traumatic event that is severely impacting her functioning. No attempt has been made at therapeutic recovery. It will be important to discern if Cindy sees her homeless directly related to the traumatic event of her husband’s death.

### **Risk of Personal Harm/Harm to Others**



46. Frederick has a speech impediment and a limp and is frequently picked on by other men in the shelter. Once he hits his threshold, he lashes out and fights – about once a week, give or take. He loses just about every fight that he gets in and has suffered a broken nose, kidney bruise and lost teeth in fights within just the past two months. What score in the Risk of Personal Harm/Harm to Others section of the SPDAT best describes Frederick?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Frederick is an imminent risk to himself or others, as he will frequently attempt to harm others if there is not de-escalation.*

47. Christine, three weeks ago, took an overdose of sleeping pills intentionally in the hopes of killing herself. She was in hospital for a week before being released. She regrets what happened and is seeing a therapist to work through the feelings that caused her to want to kill herself. What score in the Risk of Personal Harm/Harm to Others section of the SPDAT best describes Christine?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Christine has attempted to harm herself in the past year, but there are no strong, clear threats that she intends to do so again soon.*

48. Nicole is a domestic violence survivor. She has not seen her abuser for almost three years. Fearing that he will one day come back to get her, she sleeps with a hunting knife in her bedside table, and has been clear with you that should he ever reappear in her life she will kill him. What score in the Risk of Personal harm/Harm to Others section of the SPDAT best describes Nicole?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Nicole has made statements threatening harm to others within the past six months.*

49. Marienella has lit two apartments and the shelter on fire within the past three years. She did this when she was angry and says she has always found that watching fires helps her anger disappear. In all three instances damage was minimal and nobody was hurt. She has not lit a fire within the past six months. She says that she will not burn down her current apartment, no matter how angry she gets. What score in the Risk of Personal Harm/Harm to Others section of the SPDAT best describes Marienella?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Marienella last tried to light a fire six months. While nobody has been previously hurt, fires do present clear risks to self and others in an apartment setting.*

50. Kristen was incarcerated for six years for assault. A year and a half ago she was released. She has not had any incidents of harming herself or others since being released. What score in the Risk of Personal Harm/Harm to Others section of the SPDAT best describes Kristen?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: It has been more than 12 months since Kristen has had an incident of harming herself or others, but her exposure from the past would be considered more than “limited.”*

### **Interaction with Emergency Services**

51. Lorianna is obese. She frequently feels out of breath when she walks up the three flights of stairs to her apartment, especially during the summer. At least once every two weeks she



calls an ambulance because she can't catch her breath. What score in the Interaction with Emergency Services section of the SPDAT best describes Lorianna?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Lorianna is scored a 4 because she has had more than 10 interactions with emergency services in the last 6 months.*

52. Tomislav got picked up by police at least once a week for over a year when he was homeless. In the four months that he has been housed he has not had any interaction with police whatsoever. What score in the Interaction with Emergency Services section of the SPDAT best describes Tomislav?

*Suggested Score: 3 or 4*

*Rationale: Although Tomislav is now housed he spent two of the last six months homeless, and during that time he interacted with police at least once a week. For those 8 weeks in question, there are at least 8 interactions (which would make him a 3); however, as described, the interactions with police were "at least" once per week. If there are two or more of the 8 weeks where there were 2 or more interactions, Tomislav would be a 4.*

53. Stan used to go to the Emergency Room at least three times per week when he was not taking his medication and had active hallucinations. For the past five months he has not been to the ER once. What score in the Interaction with Emergency Services section of the SPDAT best describes Stan?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: The last month that Stan was frequently visiting the ER before his health improved is still counted here, as it occurred in the last 6 months. As such, Stan has had over 10 interactions with emergency services in the last 6 months.*

54. Garson is a cutter. Most of the time his cuts are shallow. But about once a month he cuts a bit too deep or some of the cuts gets infected. In these situations he goes to the emergency room. What score in the Interaction with Emergency Services section of the SPDAT best describes Garson?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Garson goes to the emergency room about once a month, which over the last 6 months would amount to 4-9 interactions with emergency services.*

55. Jordana frequently felt suicidal when she was living in the shelter, distraught over her children being in custody and the state of her life. At least once per week the police and/or ambulance would arrive at the shelter depending in response to her threats or attempts. She has been housed for four months and only once have police attended. What score in the Interaction with Emergency Services section of the SPDAT best describes Jordana?

*Suggested Score: 3 or 4*

*Rationale: Jordana has had 4-9 interactions with emergency services in the past 6 months. Like Tomislav it will be important to determine how many weeks had more than one encounter with police or ambulance, as well as how many instances involved police AND ambulance.*

### **Involvement in High Risk and/or Exploitive Situations**



56. Mark picks up pre-rolled joints on Fridays from Mike, and delivers packages to Dave, Carl and DJ. What score in the High Risk and/or Exploitive Situations section of the SPDAT best describes Mark?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Each week represents four high risk situations – the pick up and the three separate deliveries. This results in more than 10 high risk interactions.*

57. Gail is a sex worker. She used to work on the streets. Since getting an apartment she entertains dates in her apartment on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and is now engaged with more upscale men. She says this is safer than street work and that she always has condoms for the men to wear now, which she didn't always have when working the street. She also rinses and cleans herself after every date. What score in the High Risk and/or Exploitive Situations section of the SPDAT best describes Gail?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Sex work is considered a high risk and/or exploitive situation, regardless of where it occurs, or the perception of the clientele. Gail has more than 10 such situations in the past six months.*

58. Glenn sleeps outside in a remote part of the woods, and has been doing so for four years. He has a tent, sleeping bag, tarp and three changes of clothes, and extra layers for the wintertime. He has grill equipment for cooking. He meets his hygiene needs at a community centre about a 10 minute walk from where he sleeps. His camping site is spotless. He treks all garbage and other waste away from the site. What score in the Involvement in High Risk and/or Exploitive Situations section of the SPDAT best describes Glenn?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: While sleeping rough may be considered high risk, by the description provided it sounds as though Glenn is well prepared for the weather and circumstances where he camps.*

59. Marina uses drugs through injection. She uses daily, multiple times per day. Because she does not always have access to new works, she cleans out her needles and syringes, disinfects in bleach and air dries a handful of supplies daily. What score in the High Risk and/or Exploitive Situations section of the SPDAT best describes Marina?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Injection drug use is a high risk and/or exploitive situation, and Marina is involved in such a situation on a daily basis.*

60. Tristan is developmentally delayed. His friend Mikey takes him to the same job site he works at. In exchange, Mikey takes half of Tristan's pay at the end of the day for helping him get the job, helping him get to the job site and for looking out for him at the site. Tristan has never agreed to this financial arrangement nor is he fully aware that Mikey is taking 50% of his pay. What score in the High Risk and/or Exploitive Situations section of the SPDAT best describes Tristan?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: Tristan is involved in an exploitive situation on a daily basis.*

## **Legal**



61. Sharon was ordered to community service earlier this year for a second offence shoplifting. She has completed all of her hours and has no other outstanding legal issues. What score in the Legal section of the SPDAT is Sharon?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Sharon has had a legal issue in the past 12 months, but it has been resolved through community service.*

62. Justin beat up the Deputy Sheriff with a baseball bat when an eviction notice was being served. He has been held on remand without bail since the altercation last month. He has had two court appearance so far and it is expected that the trial will start in 6-9 months. What score in the Legal section of the SPDAT is Justin?

*Suggested Score: 4*

*Rationale: While Justine has been incarcerated for less than 3 months (which would meet the requirements of a 3 score) he is being held on remand without bail and the trial will not start for another 6-9 months.*

63. Timothy has been sentenced to serve weekends for a relatively minor drug infraction. He will be serving the time for the next 22 weekends. What score in the Legal section of the SPDAT best describes Timothy?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Timothy has had a least one legal issue in the last 12 months. The total time incarcerated will amount to less than 3 months.*

64. Bernie is part of a class action suit against a pharmaceutical company, stemming from a medication he was prescribed as young adult. What score in the Legal section of the SPDAT best describes Bernie?

*Suggested Score: 0*

*Rationale: This component is concerned with legal issues to which the person is subject to such things as paying a fine, community service or incarceration. Civil court proceedings are not included.*

65. Dina was visited yesterday by by-law officials. The local by-law stipulates all cats and dogs must be licensed and that there can be no more than two cats or two dogs per residence. Dina has 14 cats. She has been given one week to find homes for the cats, otherwise the cats will be removed from the home and she will face a fine of \$150 per cat over the two allowed. Her monthly income is just shy of \$800 and she has no savings. What score in the Legal section of the SPDAT best describes Dina?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Should Dina incur these fines, the amount will put her housing at risk. She would not be scored a 4 until the fines are actually applied.*

### **History of Housing and Homelessness**

66. Caitlin was born into a homeless family. Her first three years were spent living in a motel program that was the city's family shelter. After that time she was taken into care. At 18 she aged out of the system and found herself in the women's shelter. She has been there for 18 months out of the past five years. What score in the History of Housing and Homelessness section of the SPDAT best describes Caitlin?



*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Caitlin's total duration of homelessness was more than 30 days but less than 2 years in the last four years. Having been born into homelessness is irrelevant to this situation.*

67. Jason moved out of his parent's home two months ago. Since that time, he has spent Sundays until Thursdays at the shelter. On Fridays and Saturdays he crashes at the homes of friends or will save up for a motel room. What score in the History of Housing and Homelessness section of the SPDAT best describes Jason?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Jason alternates between absolute and relative homelessness. At two months, his duration of homelessness is more than 30 days but less than 2 years.*

68. Olivia had been homeless for 14 months before getting housed. She was housed for six months before she was beaten badly. She spent four months to date in hospital and a physical rehabilitation facility, with another couple of months expected. During her third month, she learned that she had lost her apartment for non-payment of rent. What score in the History of Housing and Homelessness section of the SPDAT best describes Olivia?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Olivia's duration of homelessness would include the 14 months before getting housed, along with the time in the physical rehabilitation facility after she lost her apartment. As this amounts to less than 2 years, she is scored a 2.*

69. Jenny has been moving around for the last four years, moving from town to town and job to job. She has stayed at low-cost motels in most places, with a four month sub-let in one community. At no time in the last four months has she had a permanent address. She describes herself as a "town hopper" and does not use the "homeless" label. What score in the History of Housing and Homelessness section of the SPDAT best describes Jenny?

*Suggested Score: 3*

*Rationale: Notwithstanding the 4 months that she sub-let, Jenny has been homeless for between 2 and 5 years over the past decade.*

70. Bob aged out of foster care nine months ago and has moved from shelters to outdoors to a buddy's couch during that time. He says he grew up just to become homeless. What score in the History of Housing and Homelessness section of the SPDAT best describes Bob?

*Suggested Score: 2*

*Rationale: Bob's cumulative time homeless is nine months.*

### **Managing Tenancy**

71. Rick refuses to pay his rent. He says he put a work order in three weeks ago to have the showerhead repaired and it has not been done yet. The superintendent says he has no record of the work order. Rick refuses to put in another one. You are trying to sort out matters out with the landlord and Rick so that the work gets done and so the rent gets paid. The landlord is happy to work with you to resolve the situation. What score in the Managing Tenancy section of the SPDAT best describes Rick?

*Suggested Score: 2*



Rationale: Rick has required assistance less than three times in a three-month period. The situation with the landlord is manageable.

72. Ian is currently without a home and looking for an apartment. On each apartment application he lists the shelter address, drop-in address and his deceased parent's address as the last addresses. What score in the Managing Tenancy section of the SPDAT best describes Ian?

Suggested Score: 4

Rationale: Individuals who are currently homeless are scored a 4 in this component.

73. Everett gets the payment from income supports for his rent on the 26<sup>th</sup> of each month. His rent is due on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. Three months in a row he has been \$100 short on his rent, which he admits was spent on booze between the 26<sup>th</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. What score in the Managing Tenancy section of the SPDAT best describes Everett?

Suggested Score: 2

Rationale: Everett needs assistance up to three times in a three-month period, which includes paying rent.

74. Jessie has chosen to remove the wall between the kitchen and living room without his landlord's permission. The work is immaculate, though the landlord is unimpressed and has indicated she is moving forward with eviction. What score in the Managing Tenancy section of the SPDAT best describes Jessie?

Suggested Score: 4

Rationale: Jessie will need to be re-housed imminently.

75. Ross has been warned by his landlord not to store bicycles in the hallway. Currently there are 10. Without removing them, he has been threatened with eviction. Ross insists he needs them for parts and has no other place to put them – and that if the landlord has a problem with that, he can go ahead and evict. What score in the Managing Tenancy section of the SPDAT best describes Ross?

Suggested Score: 3

Rationale: Ross will likely need to be re-housed in the next 2 months.