

The Domestic Violence Death Review Committee's Common Risk Factors for Lethality
(Adapted from 2010 Domestic Violence Death Review Committee Report)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. History of violence outside of the family by perpetrator (perpetrator is the primary aggressor in the relationship) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. History of domestic violence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Prior threats to kill victim |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Prior threats with a weapon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Prior assault with a weapon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Prior threats to commit suicide by perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Prior suicide attempts by perpetrator (if check #6 and/or #7 only count as one factor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Prior attempts to isolate the victim |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Controlled most or all of victim's daily activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Prior hostage-taking and/or forcible confinement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Prior forced sexual acts and/or assaults during sex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Child custody or access disputes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Prior destruction or deprivation of victim's property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Prior violence against family pets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Prior assault on victim while pregnant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Choked/strangled victim in the past |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Perpetrator was abused and/or witnessed domestic violence as a child |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Escalation of violence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 19. Obsessive behaviour displayed by perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 20. Perpetrator unemployed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 21. Victim and perpetrator living common-law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 22. Presence of stepchildren in the home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 23. Extreme minimization and/or denial of spousal assault history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 24. Actual or pending separation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 25. Excessive alcohol and/or drug use by perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 26. Depression – in the opinion of family/friend/acquaintance – perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 27. Depression – professionally diagnosed –perpetrator (If check #26 and/or #27 only count as one factor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 28. Other mental health or psychiatric problems – perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 29. Access to or possession of any firearms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 30. New partner in victim's life |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 31. Failure to comply with authority – perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 32. Perpetrator exposed to/witnessed suicidal behaviour in family of origin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 33. After risk assessment, perpetrator had access to victim |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 34. Youth of couple |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 35. Sexual jealousy – perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 36. Misogynistic attitudes – perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 37. Age disparity of couple* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 38. Victim's intuitive sense of fear of perpetrator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 39. Perpetrator threatened and/or harmed children |

*The highlighted risk factors indicate concerns that present the highest risk situations. All of the 39 risk factors presented on this list are of concern and it is important to use your clinical judgment to determine how the relevant risk factors increase the risk to women and children in each situation. It is important to consult with community partners to help understand the risk present in each situation and to plan jointly with community partners and the woman involved to develop a plan to mitigate the current risk.