

Risk assessment principle and Risk management

Regional Seminar on Dangerous Offenders

Yerevan, 19-20 January 2016

Vaclav Jiricka
Czech Republic

RISKS

DEFINITION: RISK

RISK

- possibility of loss or injury
- potential of losing something of value, such as physical health, social status, emotional well being...
- a consequence of action taken in spite of uncertainty

LIKELIHOOD

MAGNITUDE

DEFINITION: RISK



Risk	Effect size
<i>Heart attack</i>	0.03
<i>Breast cancer</i>	0.11
<i>Heart disease</i>	0.15
<i>Recidivism</i>	0.29

RISK ASSESSMENT

RISK ASSESSMENT: DEFINITIONS

- requires calculations of two components of risk: the **magnitude** of the potential loss and the **probability** that the loss will occur
- the determination of quantitative or qualitative value of risk related to a **concrete situation** and a recognized **threat**

PUBLIC OPINION

Bread and
water!

They are
NOT in a
hotel!

Have them
build roads!

They shall learn
how to behave!



**EVEN VERY
DANGEROUS OFFENDERS
WILL BE
RELEASED
ONE DAY**



PUBLIC OPINION

Bread and
water!

They are
NOT in a
hotel!

Let the prison staff do
SOMETHING about them!

They shall learn
how to behave!



POSSIBLE TARGET GROUPS FOR TREATMENT

The same treatment to all prisoners?

Mentally ill / unstable / impaired?

„**L**ow" risk criminals / young offenders?

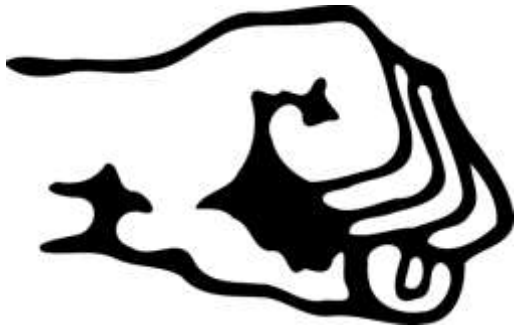
Career / persistent criminals?

High risk criminals > behavior in the prison?

High risk criminals > according to their offence?

High risk criminals > personality disordered?

Responsive and motivated prisoners?



~~SECURITY~~

~~TREATMENT~~

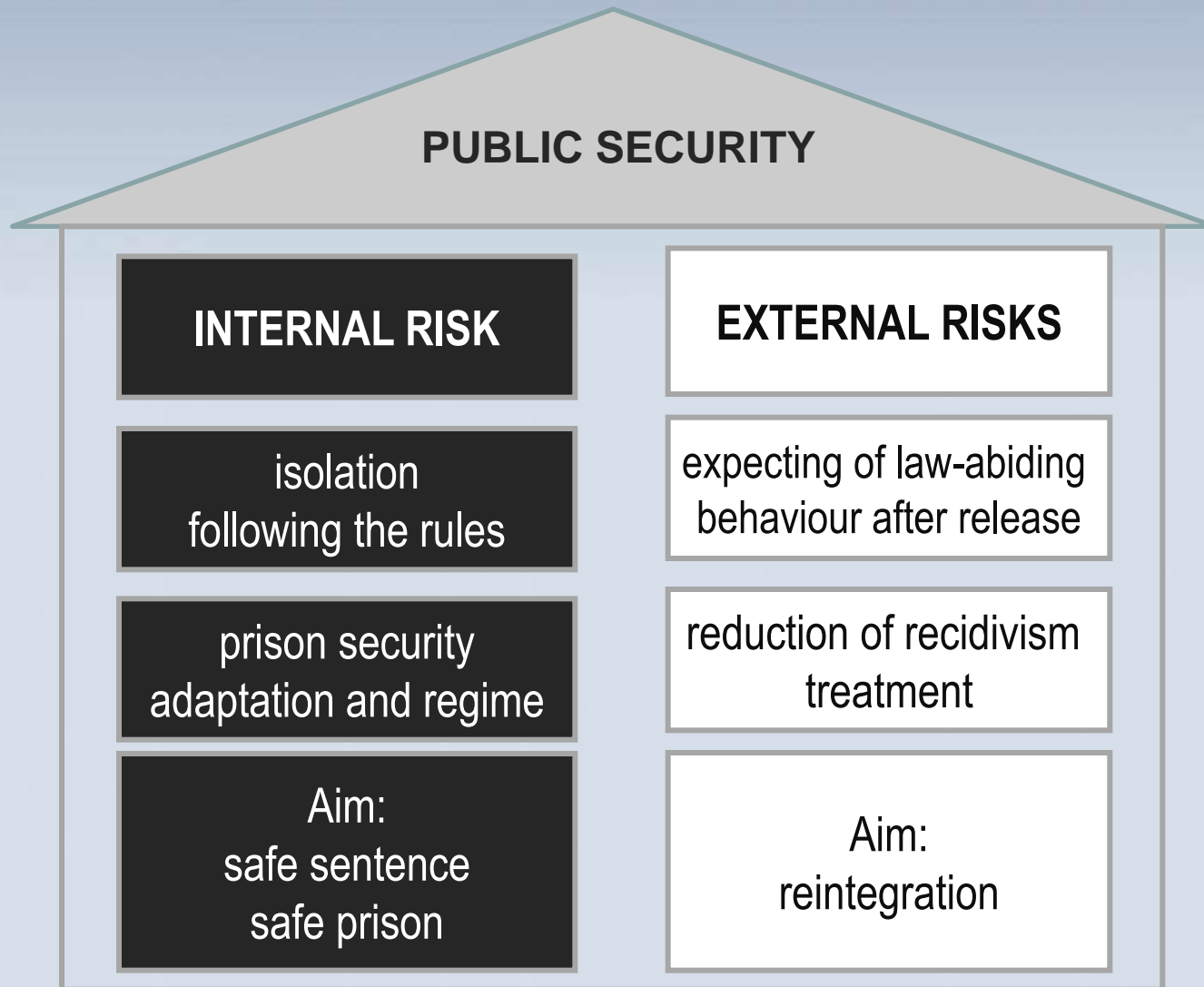




SECURITY

TREATMENT

PRISONERS' RISKS AND PUBLIC SECURITY



INTERNAL RISKS

SECURITY RISKS

EXAMPLES OF INTERNAL RISKS

Personality

- Personality disorder
- Affective disorder
- **Substance abuse***
- **History of suicide attempts***
- Violence (offender / victim role)
- Cognitive skills
- Escape

Social contacts

- organized criminality
- appropriate authorities
- religious authorities

Other behavioural signs

- Readings
- Writings
- Handsigns etc.

* check within the first 24 hours after admission

EXTERNAL RISKS

CRIMINOGENIC RISKS

RECOMMENDATION ON DANGEROUS OFFENDERS

**Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)3
of the Committee of Ministers to member States
concerning dangerous offenders**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 19 February 2014
at the 1192nd meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

Part I **Risk management**

§ 1 e): is the process of selecting and applying a range of intervention measures in custodial and community settings and in the post-release period or in the context of preventive supervision, with the **aim of reducing the risk** of very serious sexual or very serious violent crime against persons.



RECOMMENDATION ON DANGEROUS OFFENDERS

- Part I
- § 5: **The length of the sentence** or the offender's general **recidivism** cannot constitute the only criteria for defining an offender as dangerous in this sense.
- § 6: The risk management of dangerous offenders should, where appropriate, have the long-term aim of their safe **reintegration into the community** in a manner consistent with public protection from the risk posed by the offender. This should involve an individual plan that contains a **staged process of rehabilitation** through appropriate intervention.

4 GENERATIONS OF RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS

- **I**
 - clinical examination
 - non-structured assessment
- **II**
 - static factors
 - no further interventions
- **III**
 - static *AND* dynamic factors
 - sentence plan, goal oriented interventions
- **IV**
 - protective factors, **responsivity**
 - sentence plan, goal oriented interventions
 - scenarios

PREDICTIVE VALIDITY

<u>Instrument generation</u>	<u>recidivism</u>	
	<u>general</u>	<u>violent</u>
1 (clinical)	.10	.13
2 (statistical)	.29	<u>.31</u>
3 (+static & dynamic)	.36	.25
4 (+scenarios)	.41	.29

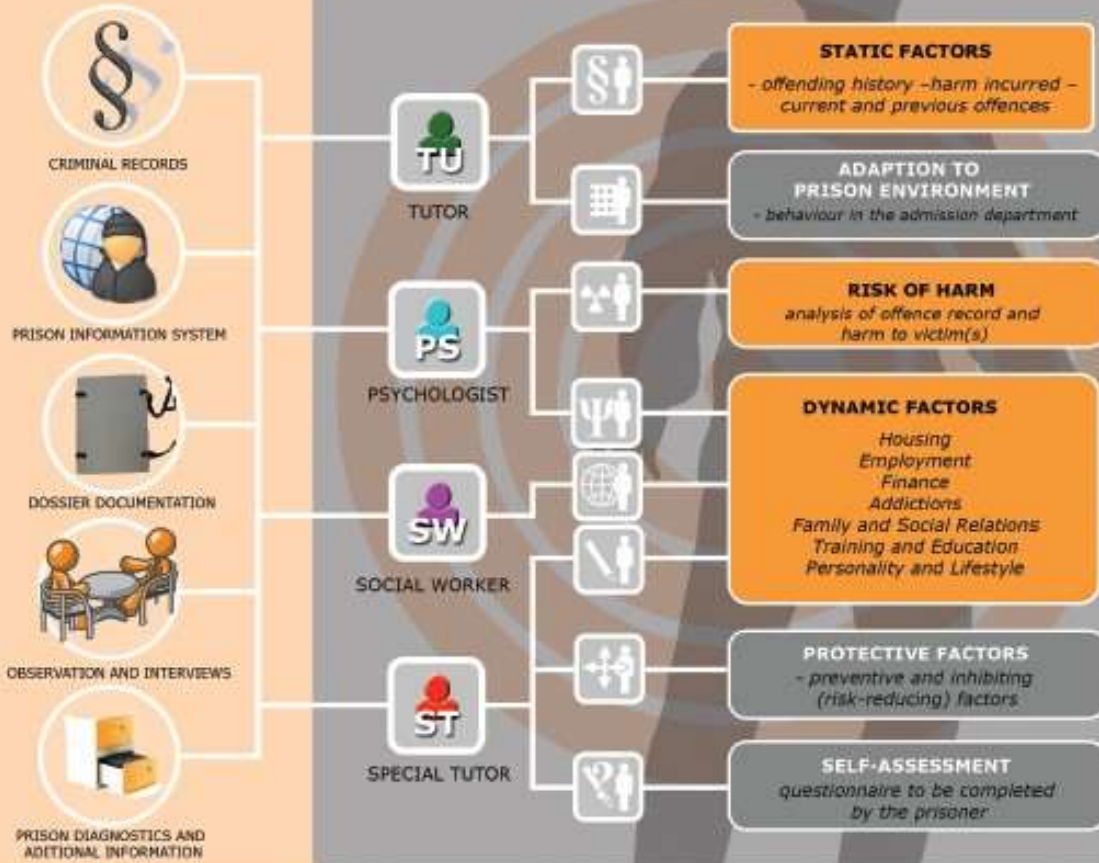
Bonta, 2008

INFORMATION SOURCES

The sources of information about prisoners are very similar to those used in the past. However, SARPO has helped to streamline information flows and partially automate them. Improved analysis means information can now be precisely categorised.

Prisoners are assessed by teams of prison employees. Each kind of information is assigned to a particular processor. Thanks to its fixed structure, automatic help feature and consistency checking for data entries, SARPO guides users smoothly through the assessment process. Each member of the team is instantly aware of the assessment phase of any given prisoner. This means that information cannot be overlooked, omitted, or entered twice. In this way information is gathered piece by piece to complete the jigsaw puzzle.

The output of SARPO is a comprehensive report including a score showing the degree of static and dynamic risks. SARPO also gives a detailed account of all the risks and important related factors. Users may take advantage of SARPO's automatically generated verbal assessment, so-called sarptext. In this way evaluators do not have to spend much time on wording the assessment.



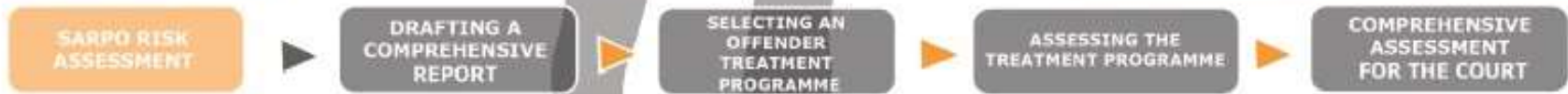
DYNAMIC FACTOR ASSESSMENT (sarptext)



STATIC AND DYNAMIC RISK ASSESSMENT



ASSESSMENT BY CATEGORY - MOTIVATION



BASIC PRINCIPLES

CRIMINOGENIC RISKS

STATIC

DYNAMIC

CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS

RESPONSIVITY

STATIC FACTORS

Basic Information

Identification

Sex, age

Marital status, children

Employment, qualif.

Offending

Re-offending

Breach of a measure

Previous serious

Current serious offences

DYNAMIC FACTORS

Dynamic Risks

Accommod.

Finance

Employment

Addictions

Relations, Family

Attitudes

Life Style

Risk of Harm

Victim

Manner

Situation

Motivation

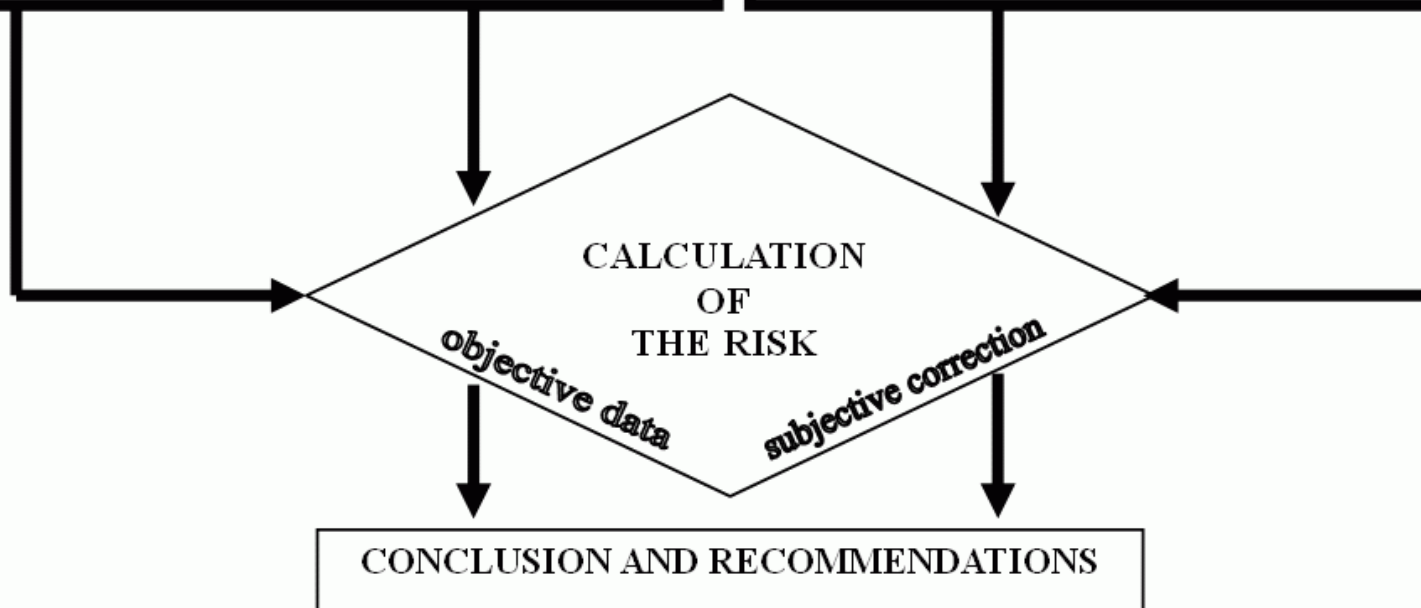
Self-assessment

Risks

Offending

View

Motivation



STATIC FACTORS

- Criminal history
- Risk of harm (violent, sex, drugs)
- Current crime

RISK OF HARM

- Crime characteristics and circumstances
- Relationship to the victim
- Triggers

DYNAMIC FACTORS

Housing

Employment

Finances

Family and Social Contacts

Education

Addictions

Personality and Behaviour

ADAPTATION

- Behaviour towards personnel
- Behaviour towards other inmates
- Suicidal behaviour / self-harm
- Hunger strikes, protesting
- Other significant information

SELF-ASSESSMENT

- Self-care
- Interpersonal relationships
- Attitudes towards criminal activities
- Motivation for solving problems

REHABILITATION



RISK MANAGEMENT

ADDRESSING RISK-RELATED NEEDS

Part I
§ 9: Special risk-related needs of dangerous offenders should be addressed **throughout the period of the intervention** and sufficient resources should be allocated in order to deal **effectively with the particular situation** and specific needs.

Part II
§ 37: Plans should be **realistic** and have **achievable objectives** and should be structured in such a way as to allow the offender to **understand clearly the purposes** of the interventions and the expectations of him or her.

SECURITY MEASURES AND TREATMENT

Part V
§ 41: Security measures should be set to the **minimum necessary**, and the level of security should be revised regularly.

Part V
§ 45: The purpose of the treatment of dangerous offenders should be such as to sustain their health and self-respect and, so far as the length of sentence permits, to develop their sense of responsibility and **encourage those attitudes and skills that will help them to lead law-abiding and self-supporting lives**

STAFF EDUCATION

Part VI
§ 49:

All **staff**, including relevant authorities, agencies, professionals and associations involved in the assessment and treatment of dangerous offenders should be **selected on the basis of defined skills and competences** and **professionally supervised**.

They should have sufficient resources and training in assessing and dealing with the specific needs, risk factors and conditions of this group.

WHAT WORKS?

**Golden 60ies
„Everything Works“**

**1975 - 1990
„Nothing Works“**

**Renaissance: 1990-2000
„WHAT Works?“**

**Knowledge transformation: > 2000
„Making It Work“**

Bonta, 2010

PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION

- **Risk Principle**

- as number of risk/needs factors increase, the effort to modify them must increase, too

- **Need Principle**

- not all needs are causally related to criminal conduct
- only some needs are criminogenic

- **Responsivity Principle**

- personal factors affect responsiveness to interventions



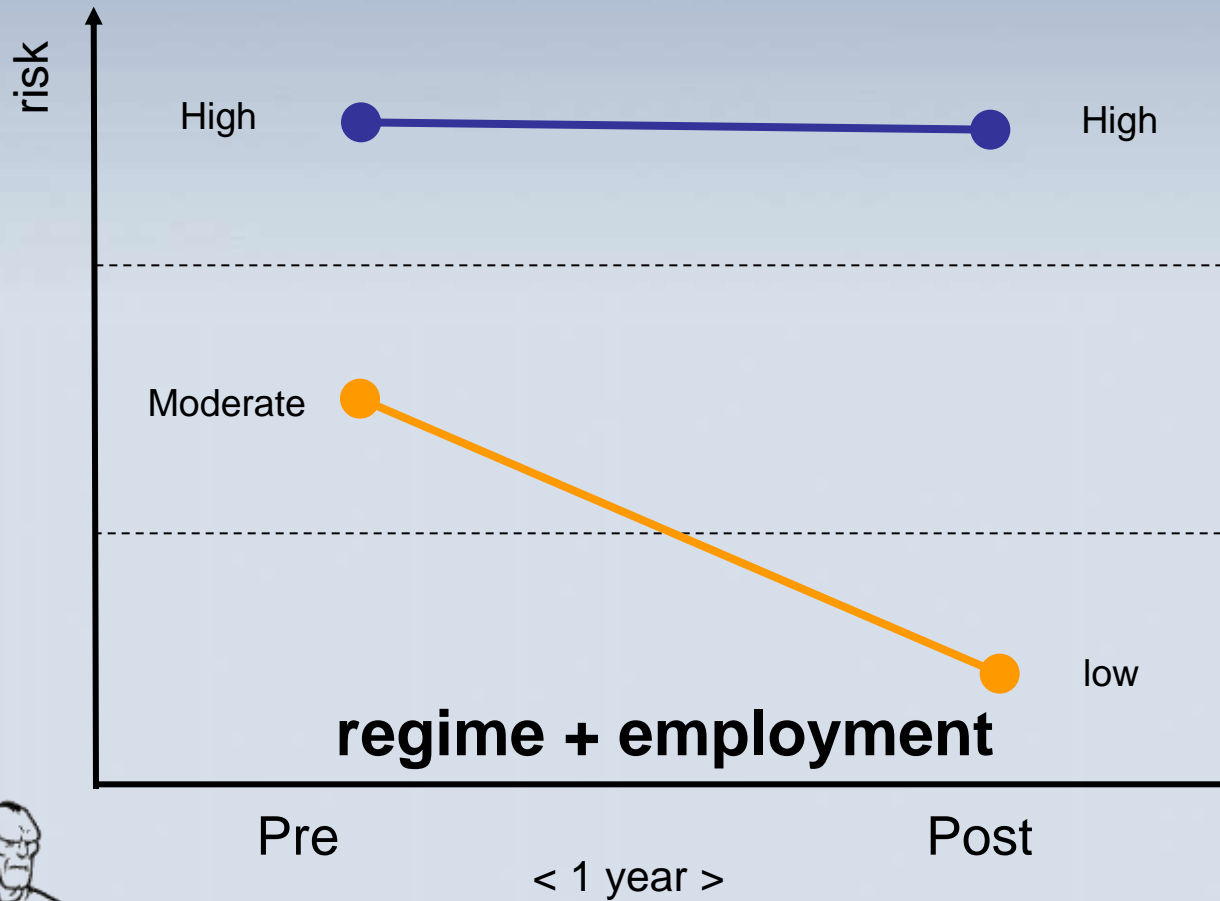
Bonta, 1990, 2010

RISK AND TREATMENT (% RECIDIVISM)

Study	Risk	Treatment	
		Low	Intensive
Bonta et al. (2000)	Low	15	32
	High	51	32
O'Donnell et al (1971)	Low	16	22
	High	78	56
Baird et al (1979)	Low	3	10
	High	37	18
Andrews & Kiessling (1980)	Low	12	17
	High	58	31

Bonta, 2010

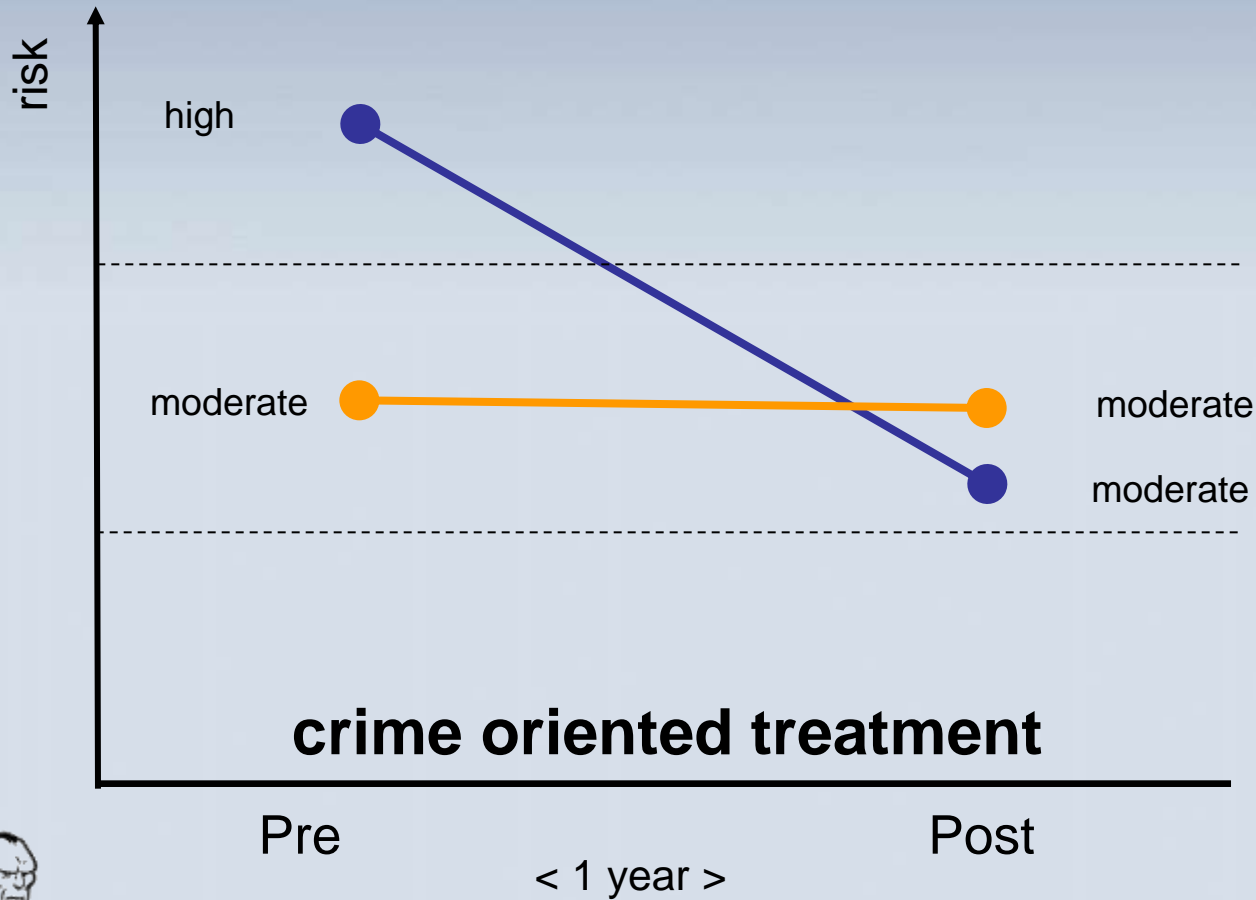
PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION



High risk offenders

Low risk offenders

PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION



High risk offenders

Low risk offenders

CRIME

ARREST

**PRE-TRIAL
DETENTION**

SENTENCE PLAN

- Employment
- Education
- Social training
- Recreation
- Family relationship

ENTRY

PRISON SENTENCE

ASSESSMENT

**COMMUNITY
REENTRY**

COURT

CRIME

COMMUNITY REENTRY

STRUCTURED REPORT ON:

- Programme fulfillment
- Changes of behaviour & attitudes
- Release perspectives
- Possible risks
- Protective factors

ARREST

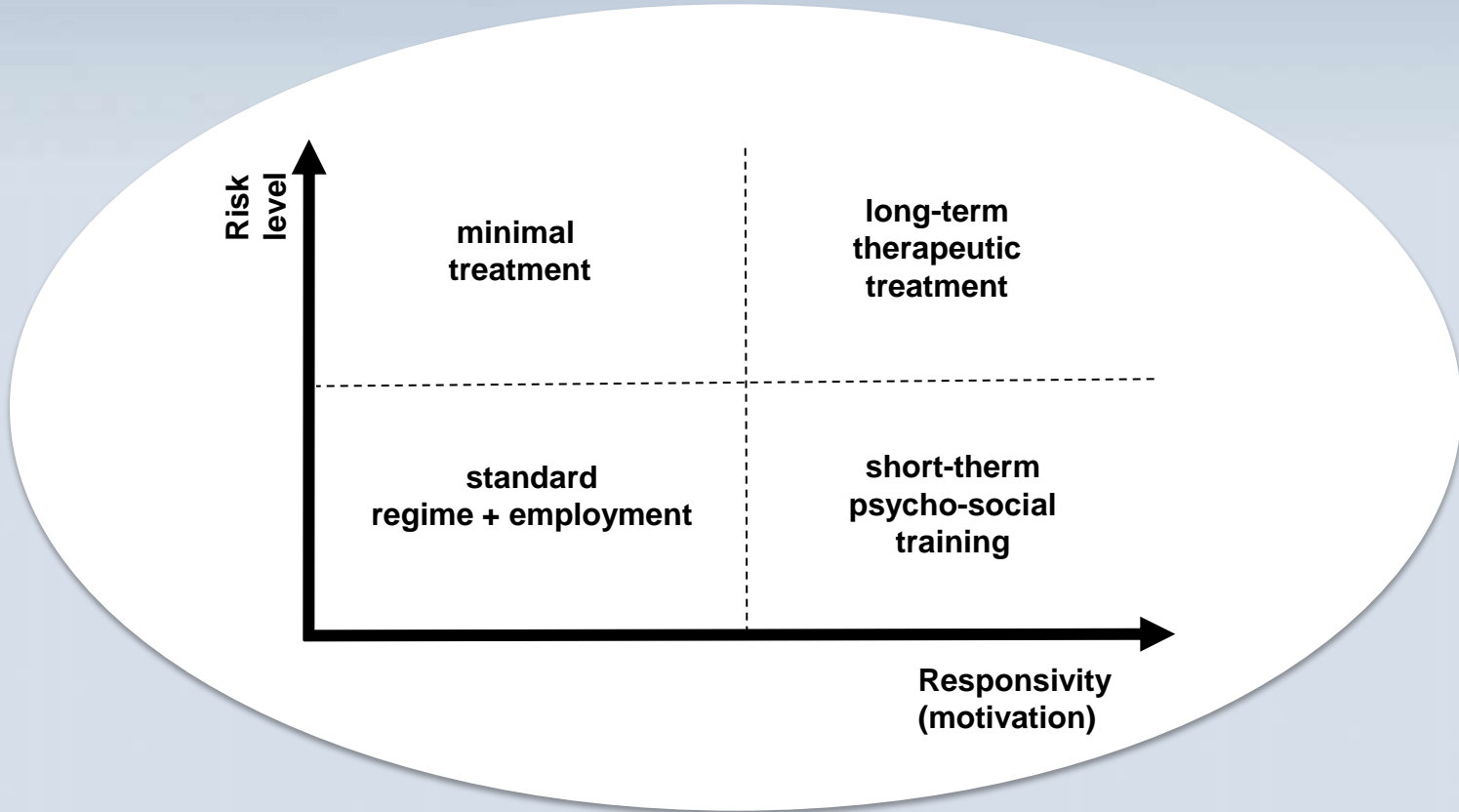
COURT

PRE-TRIAL DETENTION

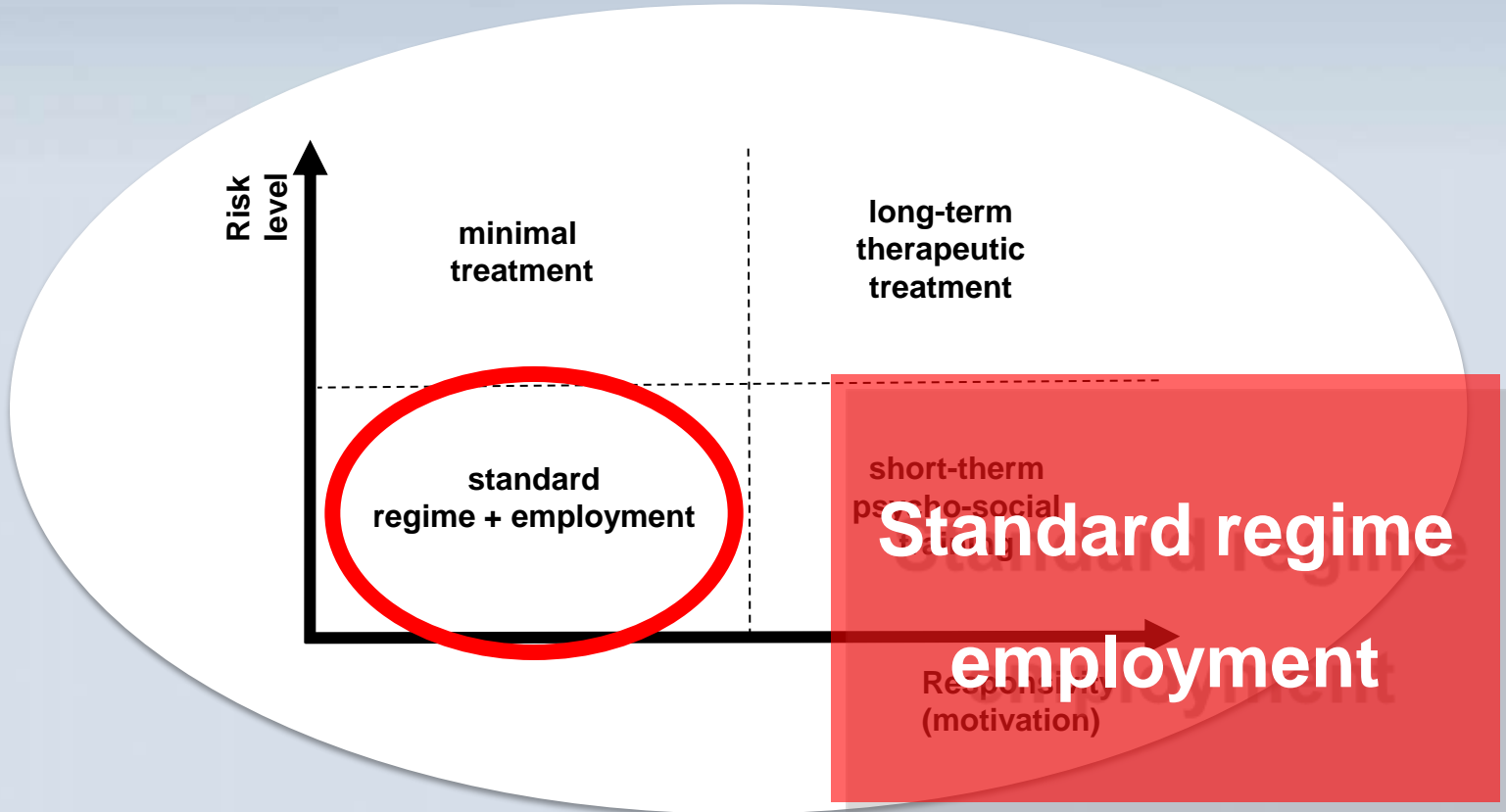
ENTRY PRISON SENTENCE

ASSESSMENT

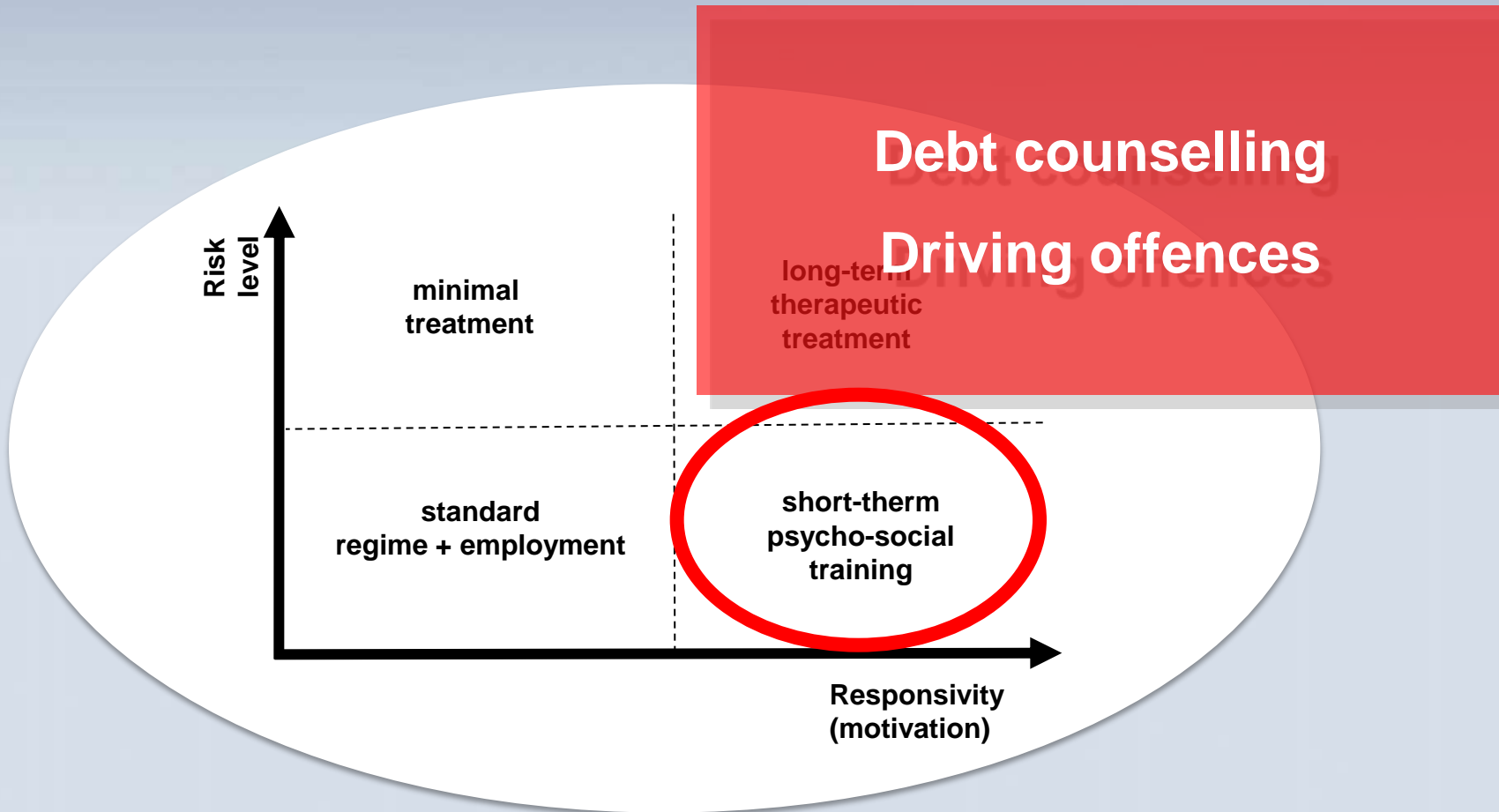
PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION



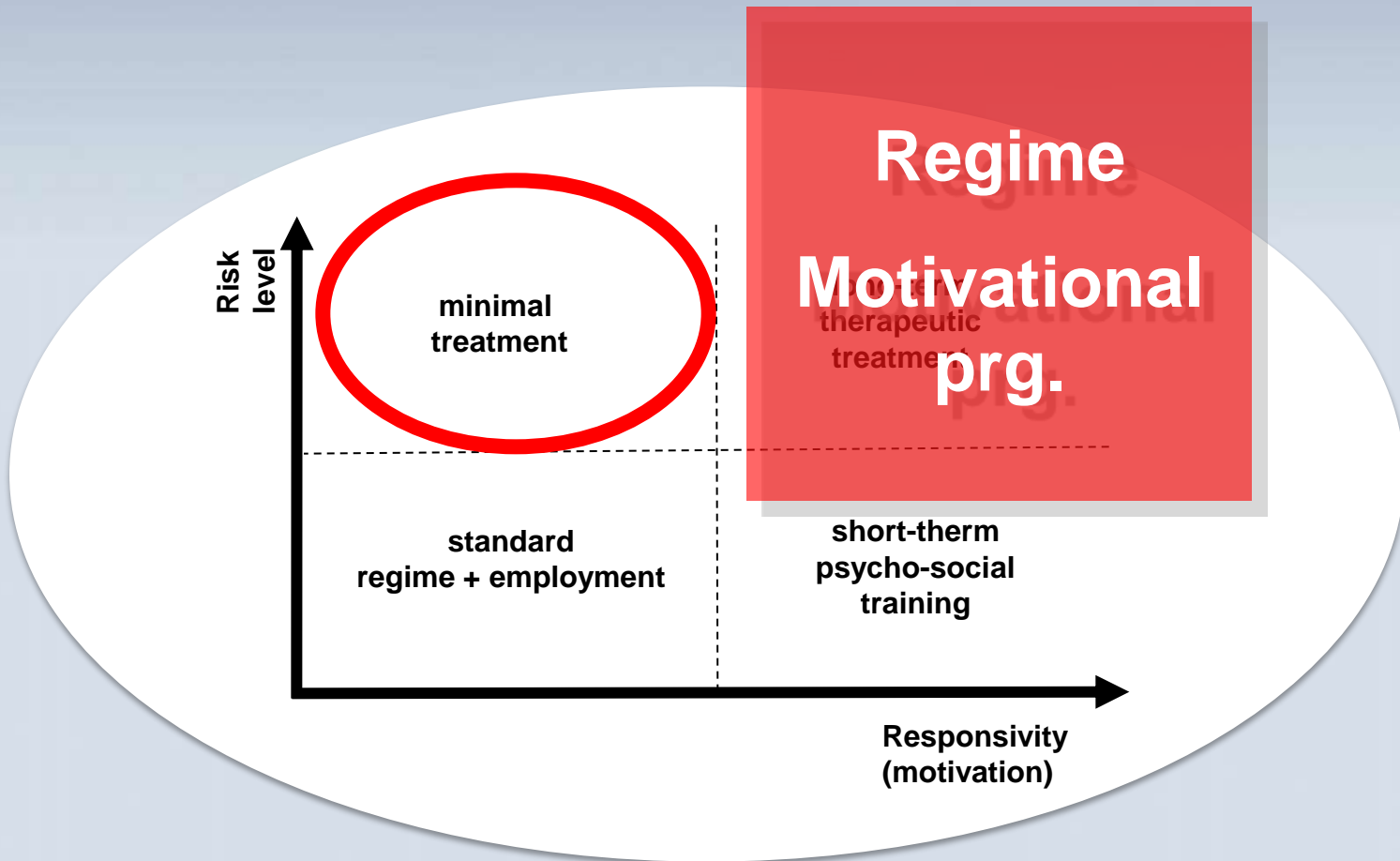
PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION



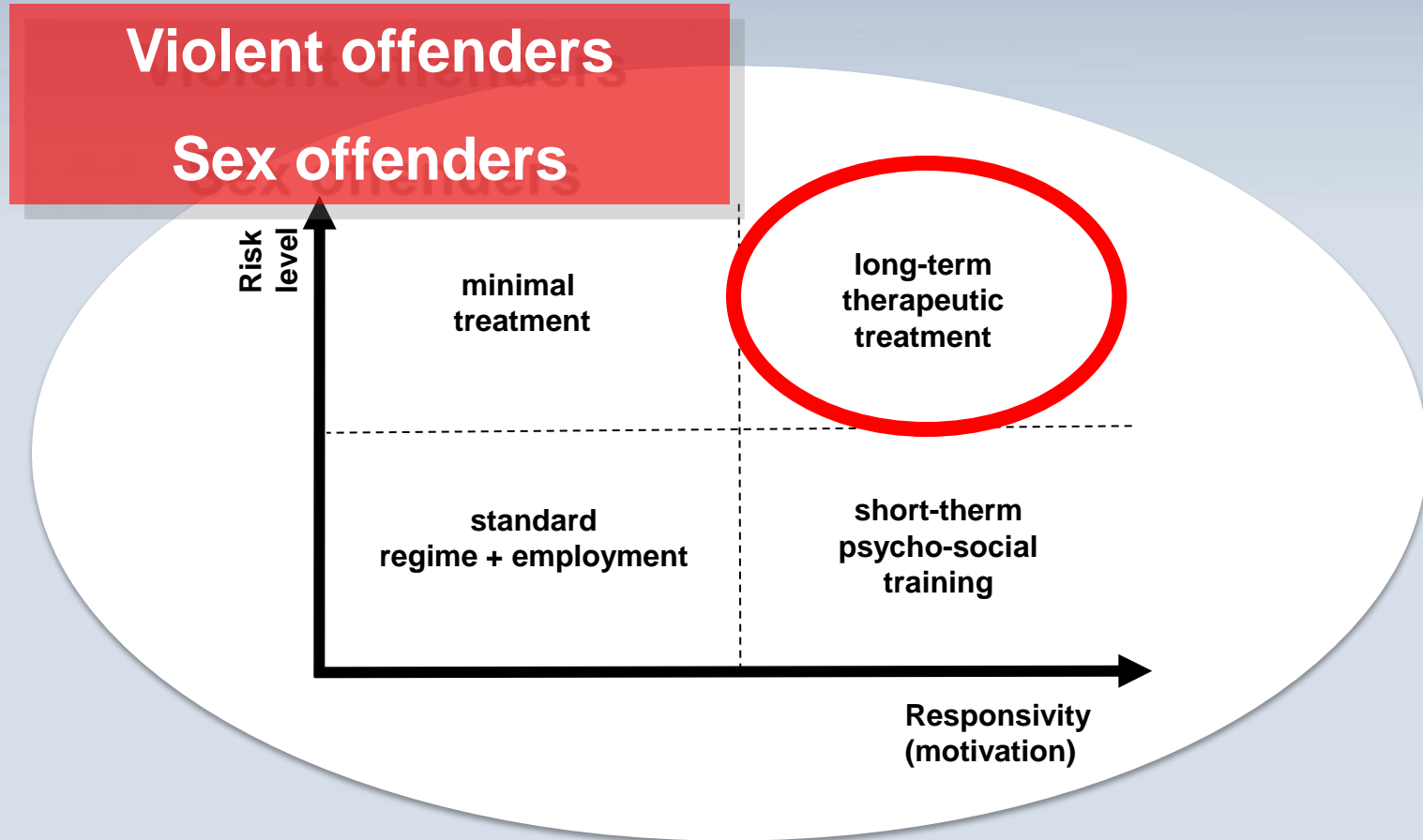
PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION



PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION



PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION



CONCLUSIONS (1)

Risk assessment is a part of dynamic security.

There are **internal** (security) and **external** (criminogenic) risks to be assessed.

Basic internal risks should be assessed **within 24 hours** after admission (risk of suicide, automutilation, drug abuse...)

CONCLUSIONS (2)

There is no effective rehabilitation without proper **risk assessment**.

Treatment which is based on the **RNR-approach** seems to be more effective.

Developing of social skills, introspection etc. must be related to the **criminogenic risks**.

CONCLUSIONS (3)

An individual sentence plan should be a staged **process of rehabilitation** through appropriate intervention.

Staff shall be trained in theory and particular instruments (i.e. RA).

CONTACT

PhDr. Vaclav Jiricka, Ph.D.
vjiricka@grvs.justice.cz