



**LIVING WITH RISK:
DECISION SUPPORT
APPROACH**

INSTRUCTION GUIDE FOR CLINICIANS
WORKING WITH OLDER ADULTS

Implementation Study
Launch Webinar



1

WELCOME



2

OBJECTIVES

Brief Risk Primer

The 4-Step Approach

The Study Protocol

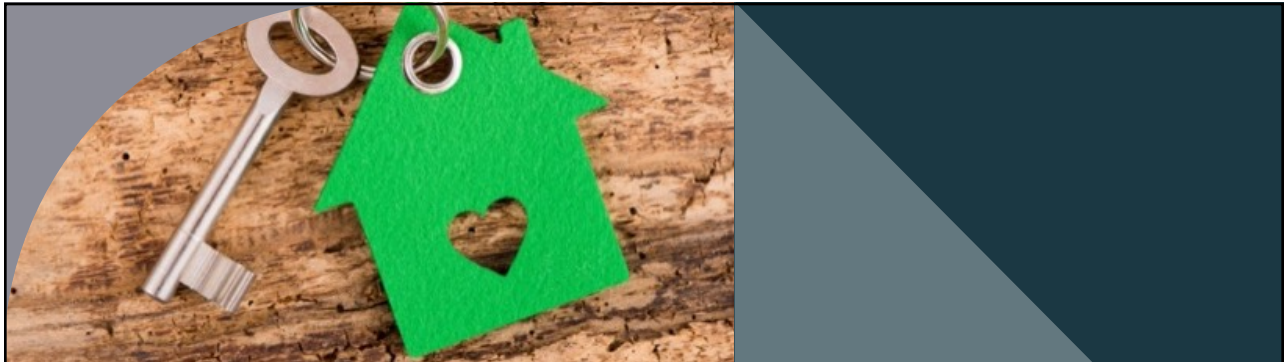
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LIVING WITH RISK

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WHAT WE KNOW

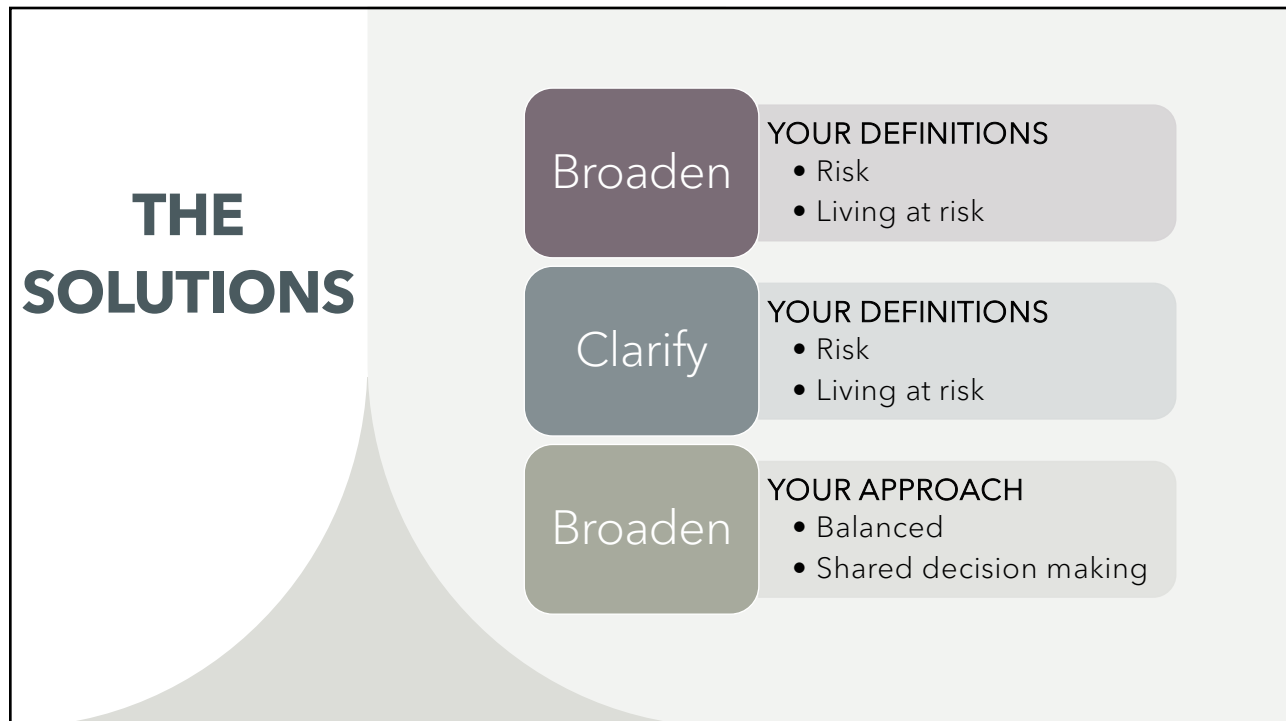
- **HOME** is where 85% of Canadians over the age of 55 want to remain for as long as possible even if their health changes⁽¹⁾.
- **HOME** is also where the majority of older adults want to be discharged to following hospitalization⁽²⁾.

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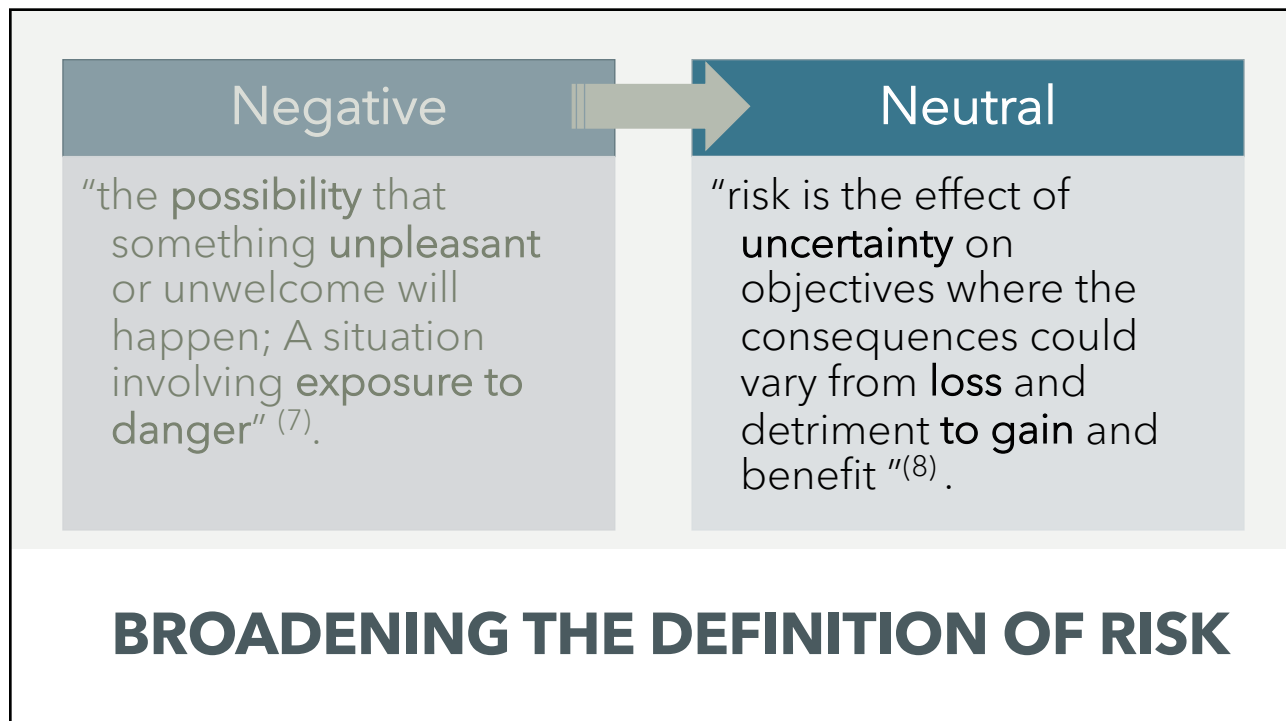
WHAT WE KNOW... Clinicians

Define	risk negatively ⁽³⁾
Define	living at risk negatively ⁽⁴⁾
Define	living at risk differently ⁽⁴⁾
Focus	on the negative consequences ⁽³⁾
Focus	on the physical consequences ⁽⁵⁾
Assess	risk comprehensively - 8 factors ⁽⁴⁾

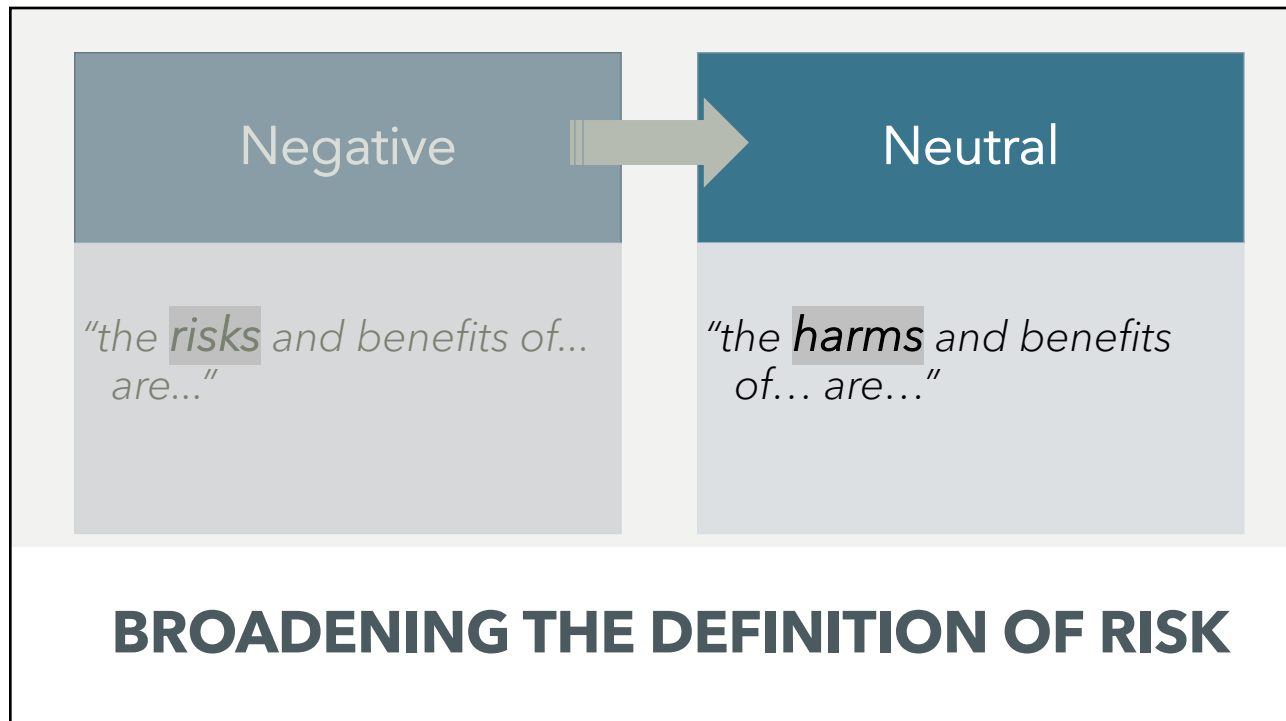
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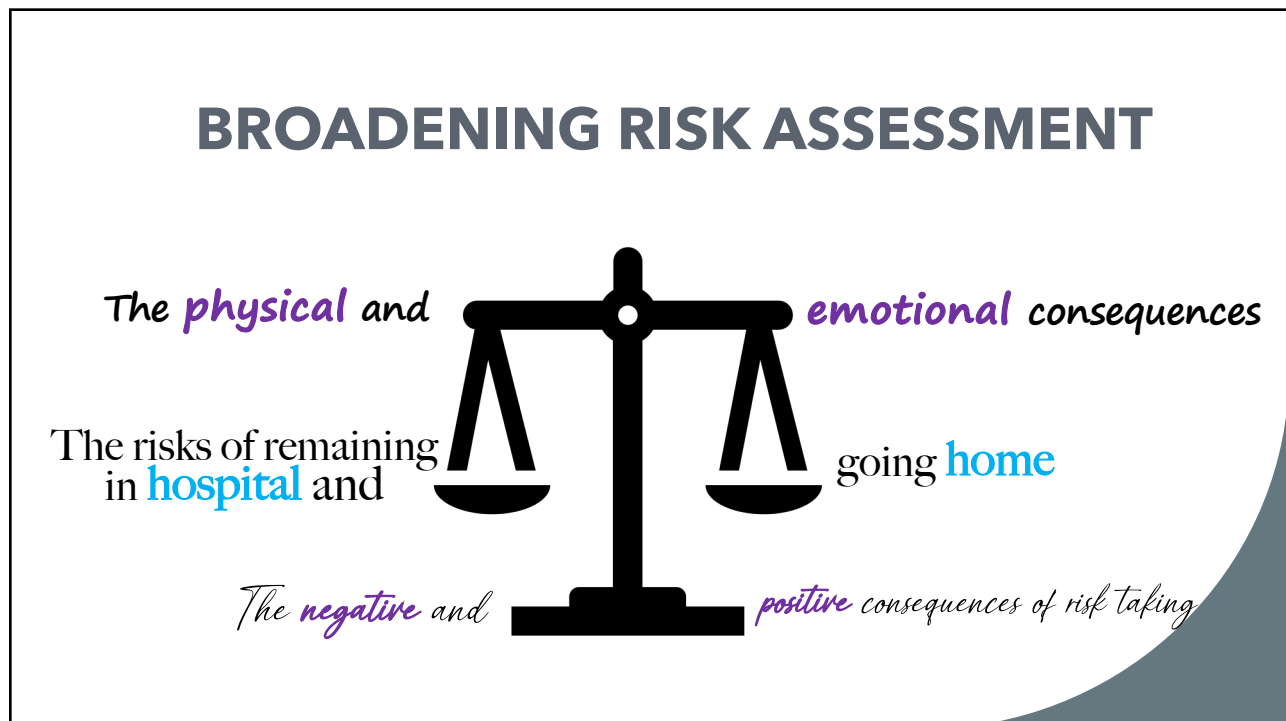


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CAUSES		CONCERNS	CONTEXT	CONSEQUENCES
Impairments & Personality	Environments			
<u>Impairments</u> Cognitive Physical Mental Health Medical <u>Personality</u> Personality factors	<u>Physical</u> Home Neighbourhood <u>Social</u> Paid/unpaid support <u>Economic</u> Financial resources	Falls Unsafe med use Abuse Fires Malnourishment Unsafe Driving Wandering Suicide ↓Health Maintenance ↓House Maintenance	Activities Location Timing	<u>Health Related</u> Death Hospitalization Injury/harm Harm to others <u>Life Related</u> Functional decline Financial decline Eviction Relocation to LTC Being over protected <u>Positive</u> Quality of life Resilience Meaningful Activity

CLARIFYING RISK⁽⁴⁾

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THE BENEFITS OF RISK TAKING...

RESILIENCE

Comes about by **taking a risk** or overcoming a challenge ⁽⁹⁾

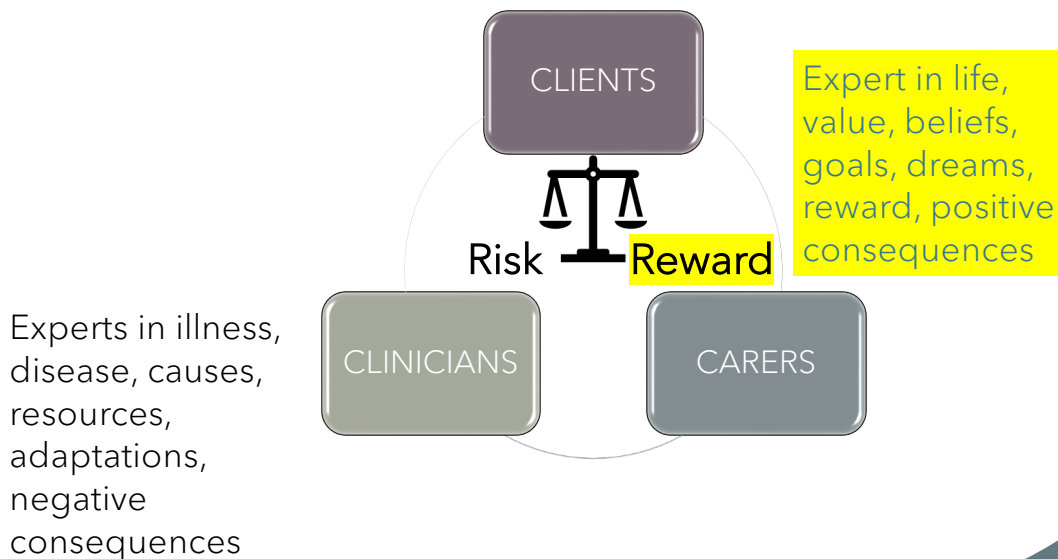
A process by which people bounce back from adversity, reintegrate and ideally **grow from the experience** ⁽⁹⁾

High **resilience** later in life has been associated with

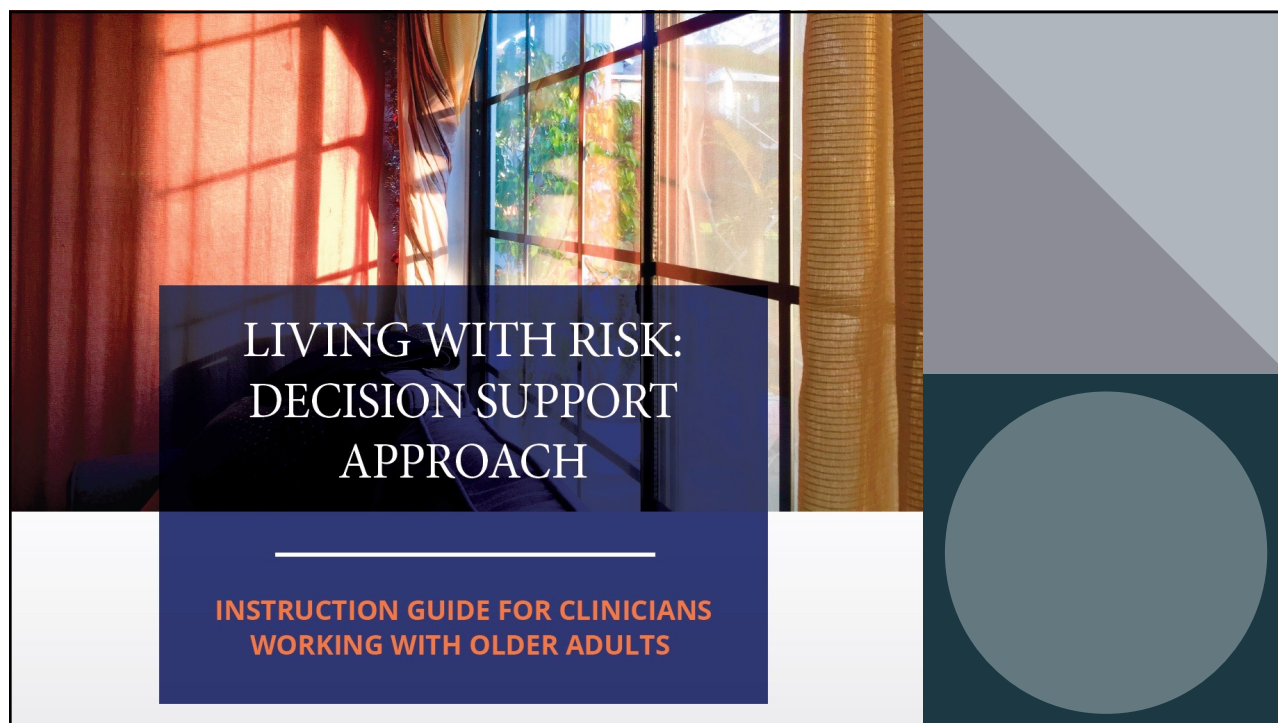
reduced depression
decreased mortality risk
increased quality of life⁽¹⁰⁾

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SHARED DECISION MAKING



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Living with Risk: Decision Support Approach

- Broadened approach to risk assessment
- Holistic, structured, systematic review of an older adult's risk status
- Identifies potential strategies that **decrease negative consequences, augment positive consequences of the risk, address impairments, leverage their strengths and adapt their environments**
- Acknowledges the older adult's decisions and choices

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Living with Risk: Decision Support Approach

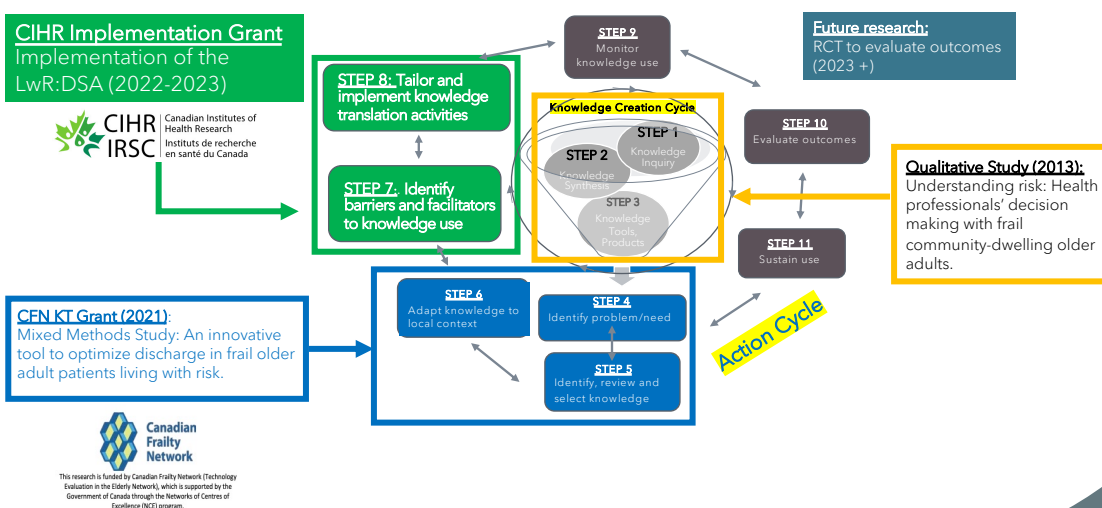
Objective approach to help with discharge and care plan discussions by:

- **framing** information clinicians are already gathering
- ensuring a wide **variety of risk** categories are addressed
- supporting a **balanced problem-solving** approach by providing a consistent process which includes participation from the older adult and their caregiver
- encouraging a **collaborative** team approach
- outlining **accountability** for whose job it is to address each risk when using within a team

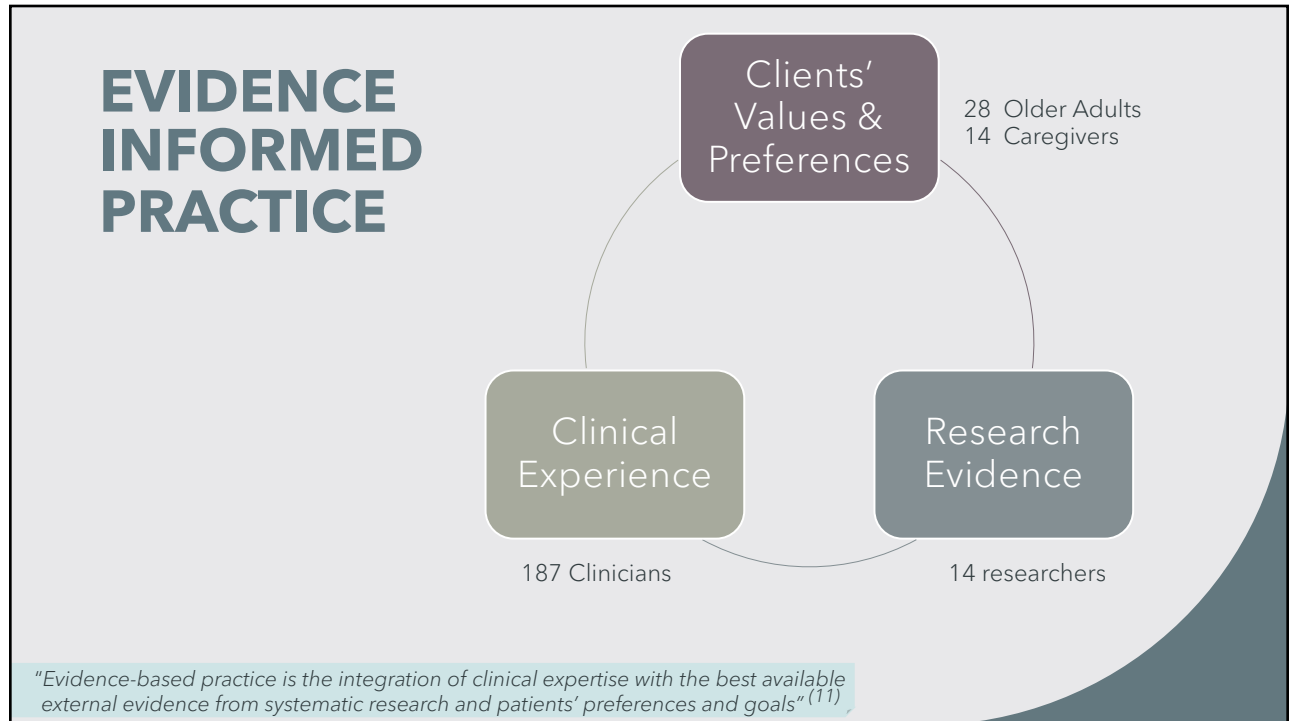
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Living with Risk: Decision Support Approach

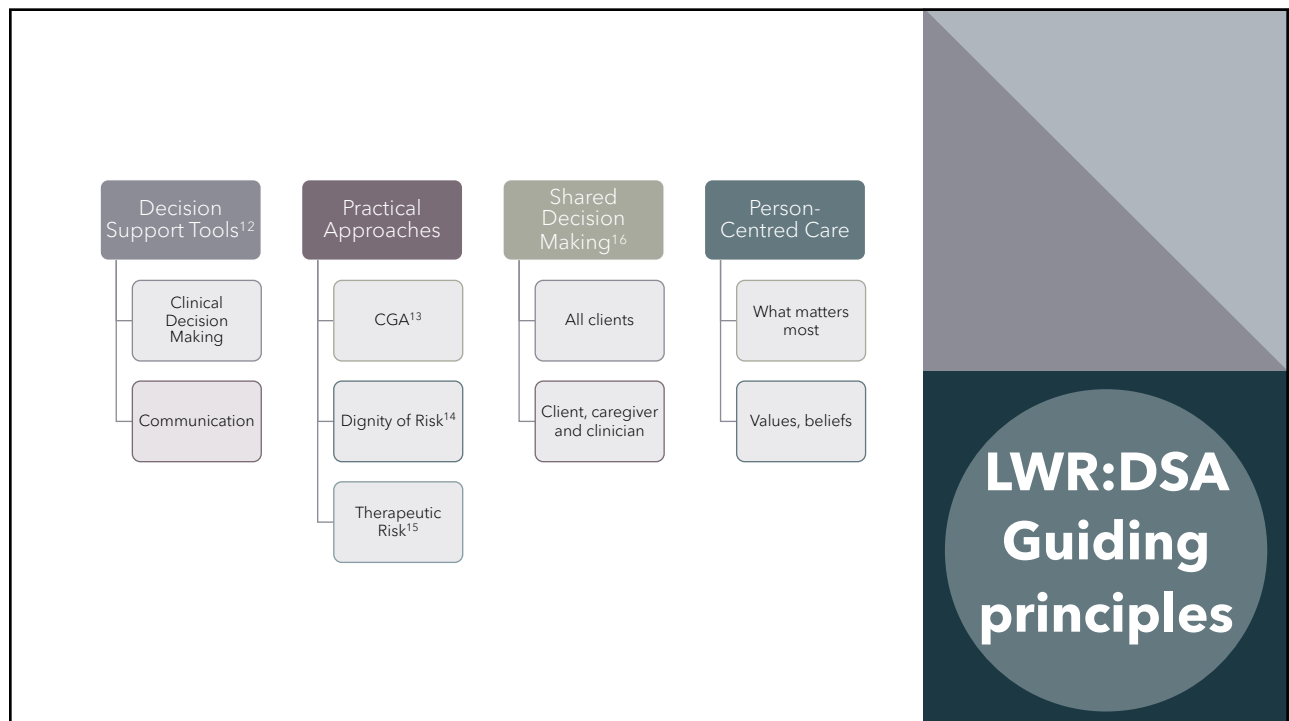
Applied to the Knowledge to Action Model (Health Canada, 2017 adapted from Graham, et al. 2006)



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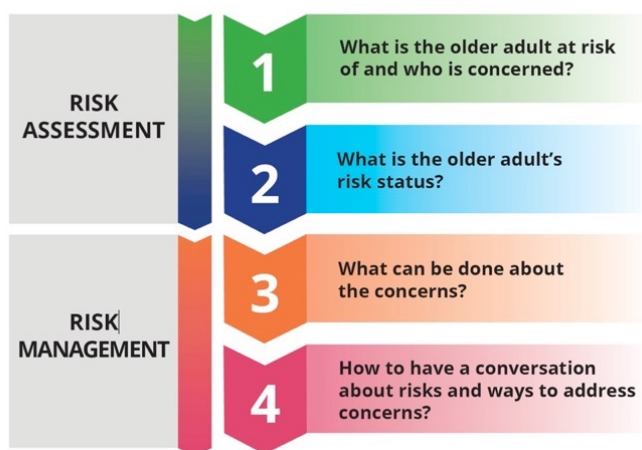
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LIVING WITH RISK: DECISION SUPPORT APPROACH

A 4 STEP APPROACH



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4 WORKSHEETS

Information Sheet

Risk Analysis Sheet

Summary Table

Safety Continuum

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INFORMATION SHEET

Living with Risk: Decision Support Approach 4-STEP PROCESS

- 1) What is the older adult at risk of and who is concerned?**
 - What are the older adult, the caregiver and the clinician concerned about?
 - Understand differences of opinions, and if present, power imbalances
 - Determine onset, context, progression, cause and consequences
- 2) What is the older adult's risk status?**
 - Evaluate the older adult's risk status
 - Consider the following factors for each concern to determine if risk is low ●, medium ▲ or high ■
 - Capacity**: Is the older adult capable to make this health care decision?
 - Occurrence**: Is the concern occurring now?
 - Frequency**: If yes, how often does this concern happen?
 - Likelihood**: How likely is this concern to occur?
 - If occurring now or likely to occur:
 - Likelihood**: How likely are the consequences to occur?
 - Severity**: How severe would the consequences be?
 - Immediacy**: How imminent are the consequences of this concern?
 - Support**: Does the older adult have consistent reliable support in place?
 - Complexity**: Are there other concerns occurring?
- 3) What can be done about the concerns?**
 - What are the wishes and goals of the older adult?
 - What can be done about:
 - The concerns**: Prevent or decrease the frequency and modify or adapt the context.
 - The causes**: Optimize the older adult's health, minimize impairments, leverage their strengths and adapt or modify their environments.
 - The consequences**: Minimize the negative consequences, leverage the positive consequences, consider both the emotional & physical consequences.
- 4) How to have a conversation about risks and ways to address concerns?**
 - Communicate perceived risk status
 - Discuss areas of agreement and disagreement
 - Support priorities

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LWR.DSA

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RISK ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

At risk of		
Concern		
Context(s)		
WHO is concerned	☒ Clinician	☒ Older Adult
+ level of risk ● ▲ ■	☐	☐
Cause(s) of the concern		
Potential consequence(s) of this concern		
Recommendations to reduce the concern, its causes and its consequences	Older adult in agreement	Options/alternatives
	YES NO	
	☐ ☐	☐
	☐ ☐	☐
	☐ ☐	☐
Older adult's perspective		

2

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SUMMARY TABLE

What is the older adult at risk of? (concern + context)	Who is concerned? What is the risk status? (low ● /medium ▲ /high ■) ¹			Causes ①	Consequences ①	Recommendations ① to minimize concerns, causes and consequences	Older adult in agreement? (yes/no)	Alternatives
	Clinician	Older adult	Caregiver					

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SAFETY CONTINUA

1. **Capacity Continuum:** Is the older adult capable to make this health care decision?



2. **Occurrence continuum:** Is the concern occurring now?



3. **Frequency continuum:** How often is this concern occurring?



4. **Likelihood continuum:** How likely is the concern and/or consequences to occur?



5. **Severity continuum:** How severe would the consequences be?



6. **Imminency continuum:** How imminent are the consequences?



7. **Support Continuum:** Does the older adult have consistent reliable support in place?



8. **Complexity Continuum:** Are there other concerns occurring?

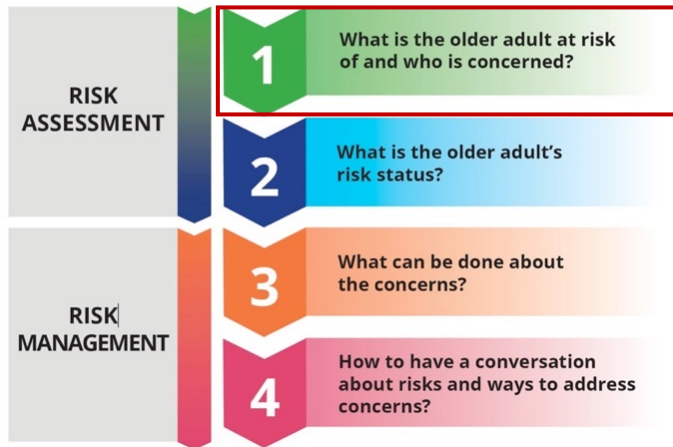


Adapted from MacLeod & Stadnyk, 2015¹

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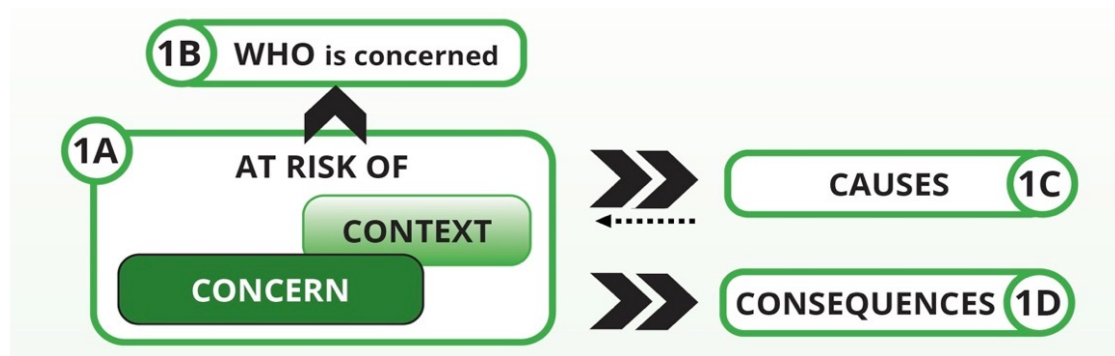
A 4 STEP APPROACH



**LWR:DSA
STEP 1**

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1 What is the older adult at risk of and who is concerned?



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1

What is the older adult at risk of and who is concerned?

Clarify concerns

- What are you, the older adult and their caregiver concerned about

Determine onset and progression

- Is this new or different?
- Has this been addressed before?
- Are there new factors that can be addressed?

Concerns

1A

Clarify Context

- In what context do the concerns occur
- Activities, temporal, environments

Context

1A

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1

What is the older adult at risk of and who is concerned?

- Is there a **change** in
 - deficits
 - health
 - environments (social or physical)
 - personality (values)
- Is the cause treatable?
- Can the environments be adapted or better supported

Causes

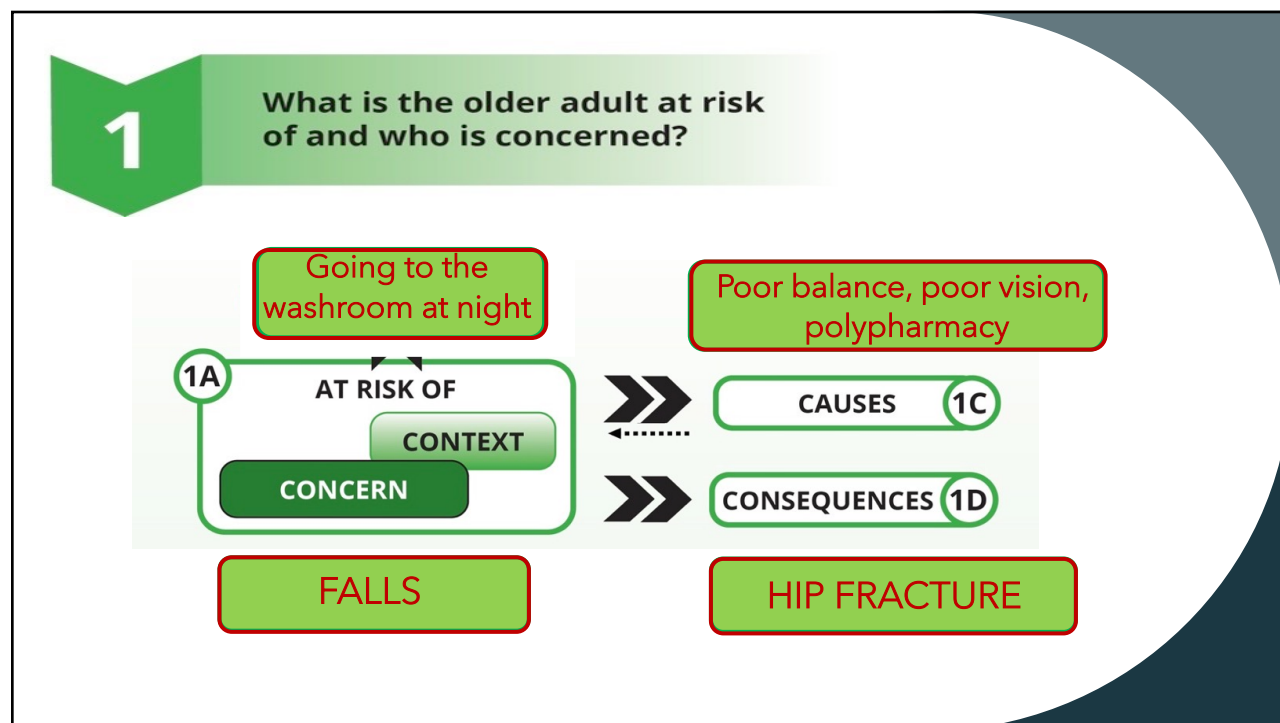
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- Are they related to health?
- Are they related to quality of life

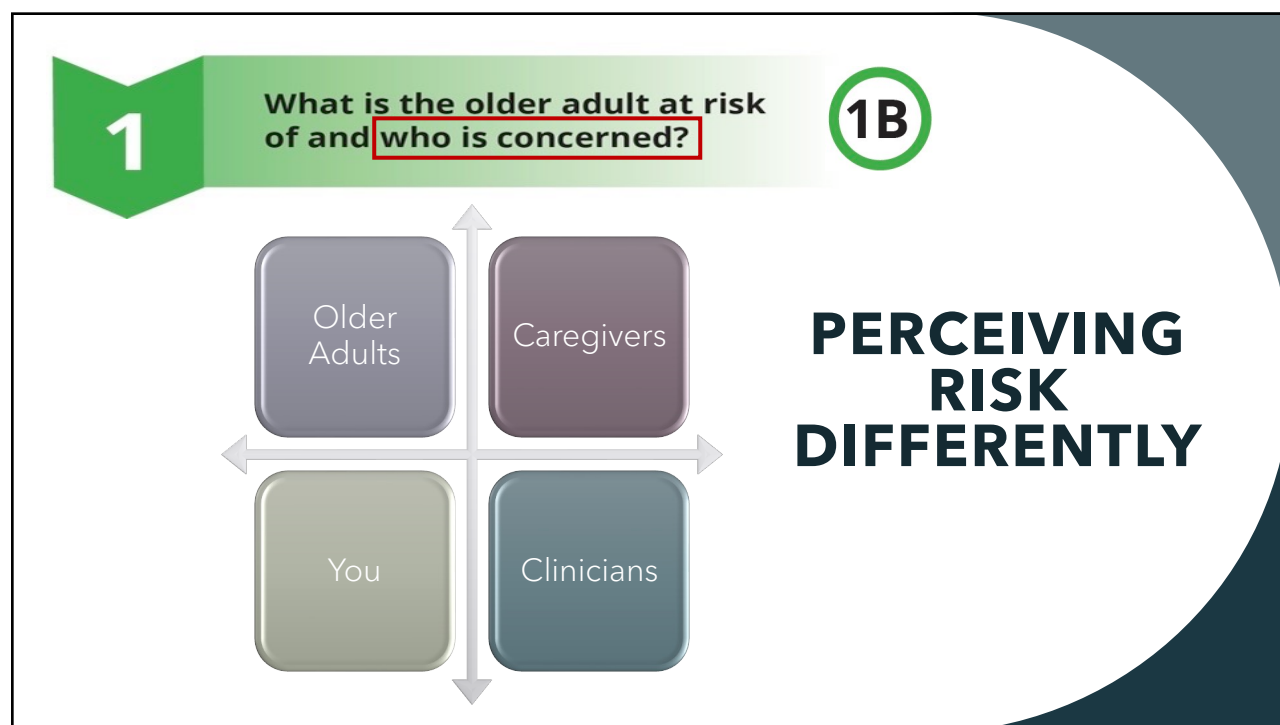
Consequences

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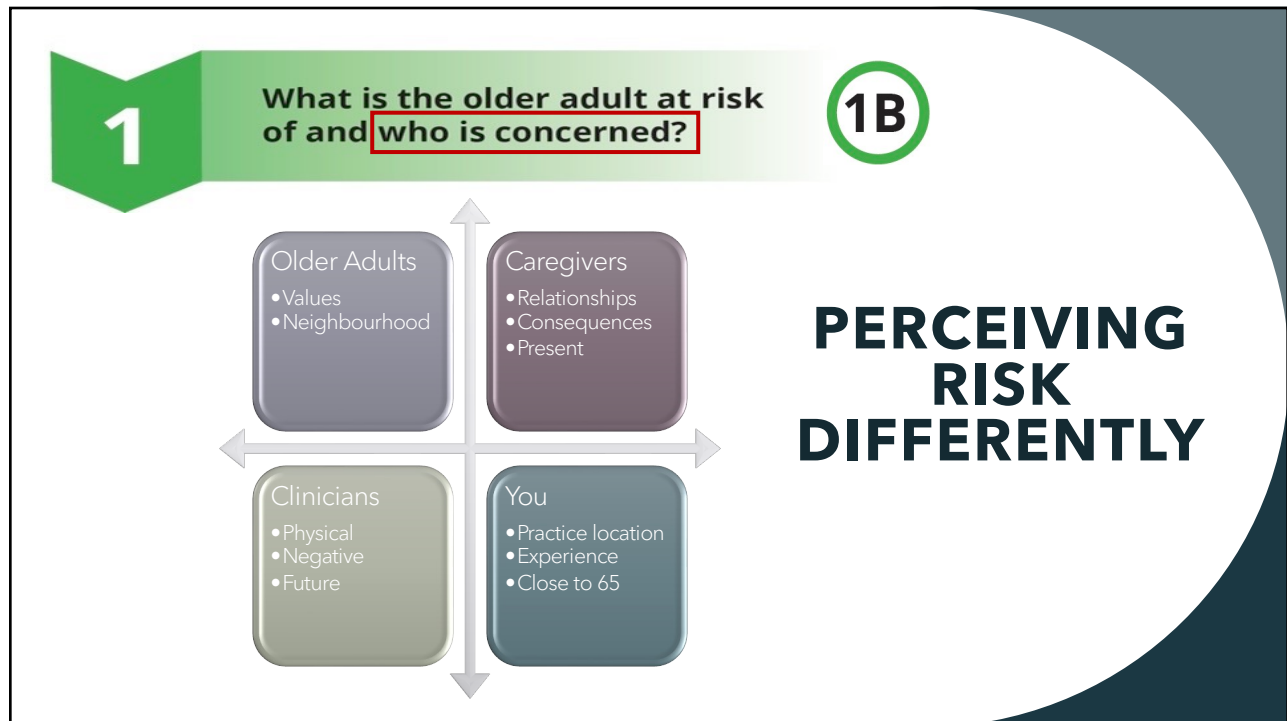
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RISK ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

At risk of

Concern: **FALLS**

Context(s): **URINATING AT NIGHT**

WHO is concerned

+ level of risk ● ▼ ■

✓ Clinician ✓ Older Adult ✓ Caregiver

Cause(s) of the concern: **POOR VISION
POLYPHARMACY
POOR BALANCE**

Potential consequence(s) of this concern: **HIP FRACTURE**

Recommendations to reduce the concern, its causes and its consequences

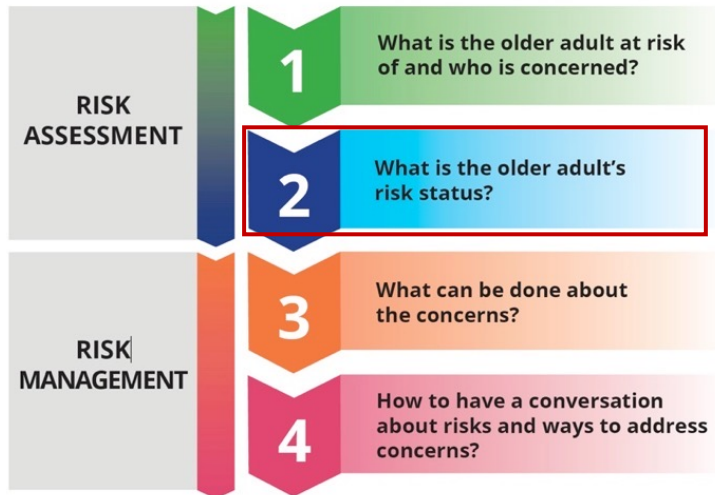
	Older adult in agreement		Options/alternatives
	YES	NO	
	☐	☐	
	☐	☐	
	☐	☐	

Older adult's perspective

1 What is the older adult at risk of and who is concerned?

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A 4 STEP APPROACH



**LWR:DSA
STEP 2**

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2

What is the older adult's risk status?

Is this a low, medium or high-risk situation?



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Business
Likelihood x Severity

		Potential Severity Rating			
		Minor	Moderate	Significant	Catastrophic
Likelihood severity occurs	Very Likely	Moderate	High	Extreme	Extreme
	Likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
	Unlikely	Very Low	Low	Moderate	High
	Rare	Very Low	Very Low	Low	Moderate

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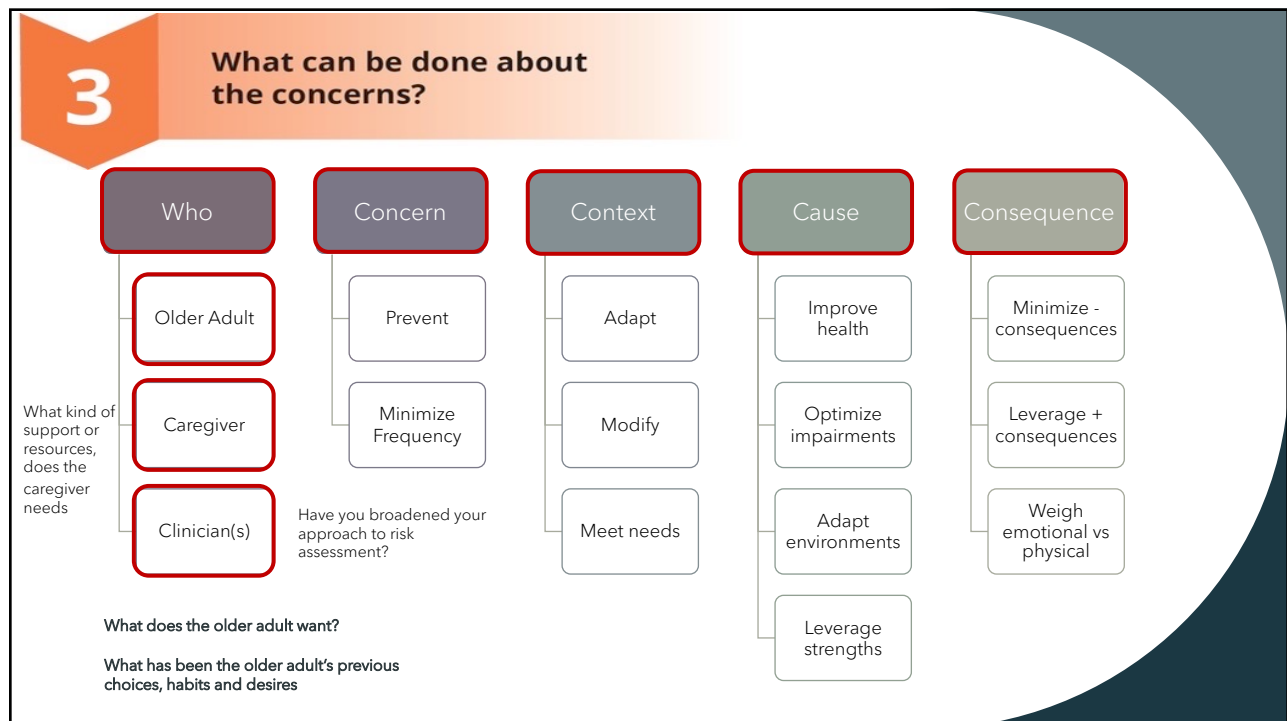
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RISK ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

At risk of

Concern FALLS

Context(s) URINATING AT NIGHT

WHO is concerned
☒ Clinician
 ☒ Older Adult
 ☒ Caregiver

+ level of risk ● ▼ ■

Cause(s) of the concern POOR VISION
POLYPHARMACY
POOR BALANCE

Potential consequence(s) of this concern HIP FRACTURE

Recommendations to reduce the concern, its causes and its consequences

	Older adult in agreement		Options/ alternatives
	YES	NO	
NIGHT LIGHT	☐	☐	
MEDICATION REVIEW	☐	☐	
WALKER	☐	☐	

Older adult's perspective

3 What can be done about the concerns?

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4

**How to have a conversation
about risks and ways to address
concerns?**



FOCUS ON
WHAT
MATTERS
MOST



ESTABLISH
PRIORITIES



SUPPORT
DISCUSSIONS



UNDERSTAND
DIFFERENCES
OF OPINIONS

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**How to have a conversation
about risks and ways to address
concerns?**

OLDER ADULTS



QUALITY OF LIFE
OVER
SAFETY



FOCUS ON
WHAT
CAN BE DONE



SHARED
DECISION-
MAKING



UNDERSTANDING
THE
RATIONALES

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RISK COMMUNICATION AND COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT¹⁷⁻²⁰

Reach a shared understanding

- Concerns and negative consequences
- Approach to the risk of harm
- Acceptable thresholds/ The tipping points

Know the person

- For creative and person-centered approaches

Acknowledge the caregivers'

- Fears, feelings and belief systems

Active decision making

- That focuses on solutions

Support time

- To process, make choices, adapt to changes

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At risk of

Concern FALLS

Context(s) URINATING AT NIGHT

WHO is concerned
+ level of risk ● ▼ ▲ ■

	Clinician	Older Adult	Caregiver
	▼	●	▼

Cause(s) of the concern

POOR VISION
POLYPHARMACY
POOR BALANCE

Potential consequence(s) of this concern

HIP FRACTURE

Recommendations to reduce the concern, its causes and its consequences

	YES	NO	Options/ alternatives
NIGHT LIGHT	☒	☐	
MEDICATION REVIEW	☒	☐	
WALKER	☐	☒	CANE

Older adult's perspective

WALKER DOES NOT FIT IN WASHROOM

4

How to have a conversation about risks and ways to address concerns?

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Study Methods - Research Questions

What are the characteristics that are either barriers or facilitators to using the LwR:DSA in practice?

- clinicians
- the LwR:DSA
- the implementation strategies, and
- the clinicians' practice settings

What changes need to be made to to improve uptake into practice?

- the LwR:DSA and/or
- the implementation strategies

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Implementation Outcome Measurement - Adoption

- To measure the **implementation outcome of adoption** of the LwR:DSA into practice.

Exploratory - Barriers and Facilitators

- To identify and understand the **characteristics of the LwR: DST, implementation strategies, the clinician and their practice environments** that may facilitate or hinder the use of the LwR:DSA.

Outputs

- To **enhance, adapt or develop** features of the LwR:DSA and implementation strategies to improve adoption of the LwR:DSA into practice.
- To **develop implementation guidelines** that support adoption of the tool across a variety of clinical health settings.

Study Methods - Research Objectives

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TIMELINES



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LWR:DSA USE X 2 MONTHS (8 WEEKS)

Using the LWR:DSA

- in usual care
- LWR:DSA - 4 Step Approach

Supports for use

- Worksheets
- Training Videos - short videos per step
- Twice monthly phone calls set up by email

Data Collection

- Complete log weekly

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USE - DATA COLLECTION LOG

Date	Gender* and ethnicity* of each patient used	LwR:DSA Use		Implementation Strategies					Questions
		# of client used with + reasons	# of clients could have but did not use + reasons	Instruction Manual (#)	Videos (# and which ones)	Worksheets (#)			
						Risk Analysis (#)	Summary Table (#)	Safety continua (#)	
Week 1 Example	Pt 1 – F/White Pt 2 – M/Filipino Pt 3 – F/Arab Pt 4 – F/South Asian Pt 5 – M/Latin Ameri Pt 6 – F/Chinese Pt 7 – M/did not identify	7 clients - Worried about d/c home	6 clients - No time - Client declined - Gender or ethnicity?	Reviewed full guide 1x	watched step 1 and step 3	1	1	0	
Week 2									Check in
Week 3									
Week 4									Check in
Week 5									
Week 6									Check in
Week 7									
Week 8									Check in and book interview

*CIHR takes gender, race and ethnicity health inequities very seriously requiring most health research to identify gender and ethnicity of the participants. **Ethnicity** is a multi-dimensional concept referring to community belonging and a shared cultural group membership. It is related to socio-demographic characteristics, including language, religion, geographic origin, nationality, cultural traditions, ancestry and migration history, among others.²¹

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USE - DATA COLLECTION

- **Bi-weekly touch-points**
Questions and review of log
By phone calls or email
- **Submit de-identified worksheets**
Upload to Research Website (or Fax)
After completed
- **Submit research log**
Upload to Research Website at end of 8 weeks

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RESEARCH WEBSITE

The screenshot shows the website header with navigation links: About Us | Partners | Member Login | Contact Us | Q. Search. Below the header is a menu bar with links: SERVICES, EVENTS, RESOURCES, HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, PUBLIC, and STOP FALLS. The main content area features the title 'The Living with Risk: Decision Support Tool Research Project' and a breadcrumb trail: / The Living with Risk: Decision Support Tool Research Project. The study title is 'Living with Risk: Decision Support Approach: a mixed method study to understand the facilitators and barriers to implementing a collaborative approach to risk assessment in both the hospital and community health settings.' The study number is REH -815-21, and the funding is from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Catalyst Grant: Quadruple Aim and Equity. The principal investigators are Dr. Dorothy Kessler OT Reg. Ont. Ph.D. Queen's University, Dr. Véronique Provencher, OT, Ph.D. Université de Sherbrooke, and Heather MacLeod OT Reg. Ont. DSc. (candidate) Queen's University. A blue box on the right contains the text 'The Living with Risk: Decision Support Tool Research Project' and a 'Logout' link with an arrow pointing to it.

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RESEARCH WEBSITE

Ethics Approval also obtained from:

Supported in-kind by the Regional Geriatric Program of Eastern Ontario

For more information about the research project please contact:
Heather MacLeod MSc. (OT) OT Reg. (Ont.)
Regional Geriatric Program of Eastern Ontario
Heather.macleod@queensu.ca

INSTRUCTION MANUALS

➡ ● Instruction Guide [English](#) | [French](#)

WORKSHEETS

➡ ● Information Sheet 4-Step Process [English](#) | French Coming soon
● Risk Analysis Worksheet [English](#) | French Coming soon
● Risk Summary Table [English](#) | French Coming soon
● Safety Continua [English](#) | French Coming soon

UPLOAD LINKS

➡ [RISK ANALYSIS WORKSHEET COMPLETED](#) [RESEARCH LOG COMPLETED](#)

TRAINING VIDEOS

➡ ● Study Launch Video – Overview of study and all four steps
● Step 1 – What is the older adult at risk of and who is concerned?
● Step 2 – What is the older adult's risk status?
● Step 3 – What can be done about the concerns?
● Step 4 – How to have a conversation about risks and ways to address concerns?
● Overall all example – Max and Nutrition

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INTERVIEWS AND FOCUS GROUPS

Semi-Structured Interviews

- After use x 8 weeks
- Time that is convenient for you
- Questions around use, the LWR:DSA and the implementation strategies

Focus Groups - October 2022

- Time that is convenient for you - so may be an interview
- Questions about revisions made to LWR:DSA and implementation strategies and aspects of the implementation guide

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STUDY PROTOCOLS - CONSENT

Consent

- Obtained at beginning of study for all phases

Voluntary Participation

- Participation in this study is voluntary and you can withdraw at any time

Harms of Participation

- Increase time to your workload
- Emotional distress related to recalling patients that you used the approach with
- Encouraged to contact your Employee Assistance Program, and/or your primary care provider

Benefits

- No specific benefits but goal is to develop a clinically useful approach

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STUDY PROTOCOLS - CONFIDENTIALITY

▪ Confidentiality

- Will be protected to the extent permitted
- The file linking your Study ID to your name/email will be stored securely and destroyed after five years
- All data between phases will be linked by your study ID
- Any quotes used will be devoid of any identifying data

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QUESTIONS AND SUPPORT

▪ Ethical Concerns

- Queen's University Health Sciences and Affiliated Teaching Hospitals Research Ethics Board (HSREB)
- Approval : TRAQ #: 6034411 Department Code: REH-815-21
- 1-844-535-2988 (Toll free in North America)
- hsreb@queensu.ca

▪ Study Questions and/or Concerns

- Heather MacLeod: heather.macleod@queensu.ca
- Supervisor and Co-PI: Dr. Dorothy Kessler: dk75@queensu.ca or 613-533-6551
- Co-Pi: Dr. Véronique Provencher: veronique.provencher@usherbrooke.ca

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NEXT STEPS

- Complete Consent Form Survey: survey link sent by email
- Complete Survey 2: survey link sent by email
- Use tool for 8 weeks
- Complete research log weekly - upload at end to Research Website
- Heather will contact you every two weeks for questions and review of research log. Notify heather.macleod@queensu.ca of start date for 8 weeks ONLY if you don't start the week after completing consent
- Send in de-identified worksheets to Research Website

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Project Role	Individual	Affiliation
Principal Applicant		
Principal Applicant	Véronique Provencher	Université de Sherbrooke
Principal Applicant	Dorothy Kessler	Queen's University, Kingston
Co-Investigators:		
Knowledge User	Heather MacLeod	KT Specialist in Geriatrics, Regional Geriatric Program of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa
Researcher	Krystina Lewis	University of Ottawa
Researcher	Nathalie Delli-Colli	Université de Sherbrooke
Researcher	Mary Egan	University of Ottawa
Researcher	D. Giroux	Université Laval
Researcher	Nathalie Veillette	Université de Montréal
Research & Knowledge User	MJ Kergoat	Geriatrician, Université de Montréal
Knowledge User	Jennifer Klein	Healthcare Improvement Specialist, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta
Collaborators:	Shaen Gingrich	Knowledge Translator - North East Specialized Geriatric Centre, Sudbury, Ontario
	Chantal Foidart	Geriatric Assessor, Geriatric Assessment Outreach Team, Ottawa
	Jenn Cavanagh	Geriatric Psychiatry Community Services of Ottawa, Ottawa
	Frédéric Roy	Coordinator - CHUS Patients' Committee Centre intégré universitaire de santé & de services soc de l'Estrie - CHUS
	Christine Allard	Gestionnaire - Centre intégré universitaire santé&serv sociaux Capitale Nationale (Québec)

Research Team



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