



All Wales Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Questionnaire (CSERQ)

(Paediatrics 0-18 years)
NHS Wales v1 (June 2025)

ADDRESSOGRAPH

| Hospital | Ward | Date of Assessment | Time of Assessment |
|----------|------|--------------------|--------------------|
|----------|------|--------------------|--------------------|

ANY child from ANY background can be at risk of sexual exploitation. This risk assessment supports professional judgement on the requirement for a Duty to Report to be completed. Concerns to be discussed with safeguarding leads. To be completed for all children/young people.

| | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Is the Child between the ages of 10-18 years? | No | No further action (continue if professional concerns) |
| | Yes | Continue with assessment |

| Does the child meet any of these criteria: | No | Yes |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-----|
| Presentation of self-harm? | | |
| Presentation of overdose? | | |
| Drug or Alcohol intoxication? | | |
| Presenting with sexually transmitted infection (STI) (male or female), history of sexual activity which raises concern (male or female), pregnancy or previous termination of pregnancy? | | |
| Looked after Child? | | |

**ALL NO- No further action (continue if professional concern)
Any YES- continue assessment**

| | | No | Yes | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--|
| CSERQ 15 questions | CSERQ 5 questions | 1. Have you ever stayed out overnight or longer without permission from your parent(s) or guardian(s)? | | |
| | | 2. How old is your partner or the person(s) you have sex with? Age of partner _____ years Age difference _____ years* Age of patient _____ years *If 4 years or more answer Yes. *If less than 4 years or no partner answer No. <small>*For 17-year-olds, in the absence of any other risk indicators, an age difference of up to 6 years may be acceptable (older partner).</small> | | |
| | | 3. Does your partner try to control things you do, or make you do things you do not want to do (e.g. have sex with other people)? | | |
| | | 4. Thinking about where you go to hang out, or to have sex, are you or anyone else worried about your safety (e.g. parent, guardian, friend, social worker or the police)? | | |
| | | 5. Does anyone physically or sexually hurt you or make you feel unsafe? <small>(N.B. Indicator of possible child sexual exploitation risk include presence of cuts to hands, tattooing etc?)</small> | | |
| | NO to ALL CSERQ5 questions- No further action (continue if professional concern) Any YES to ANY CSERQ5 questions- continue with CSERQ 15 | | | |
| | 6. Males: Have you ever had a STI? Females: Have you ever had a STI, pregnancy or had a termination of pregnancy? | | | |
| | 7. Do you live with someone other than your parent or guardian? | | | |
| | 8. Does your parent/guardian or the person you live with have drug, alcohol and/or mental health problem? | | | |
| | 9. Does anyone stop you from going out with your friends or family? | | | |
| | 10. Do you lack confidence or feel bad about yourself? | | | |
| | 11. Have you ever felt the need to hurt yourself on purpose or to starve yourself to make you feel better in yourself? | | | |
| | 12. Do you drink alcohol to get drunk? | | | |
| | 13. Do you see anyone for counselling or have extra support with your schoolwork? | | | |
| | 14. Have you ever been excluded from school or stayed off school without permission? | | | |
| 15. Have you ever had a relationship with someone you met on the internet? | | | | |

There is good correlation between high risk of child sexual exploitation and:
One or more positive responses to CSERQ5 and/or five or more positive responses to CSERQ15 questions.
Therefore, if either of these thresholds is met or there are professional concerns you **MUST** complete a Duty to Report.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Is a Duty to Report required? | Yes | No |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----|

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Name | Signature | Designation |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------|

Guidance for All Wales Child Sexual Exploitation Risk Questionnaire

Each child/young person is unique, and their circumstances will be different. New risk indicators are regularly identified. A holistic approach to child sexual exploitation risk must be taken. **It is acceptable to refer at a lower threshold** especially if you have other concerns for the health, safety or welfare of the child or other siblings.

CSE risk assessment requires a child-centred approach which considers the holistic needs of the child. The CSERQ15 checklist is intended to help health practitioners in assessing a child's risk and to support their **professional judgement** on deciding when to complete a Duty To Report (see box 1 for priority services)

ANY child (10-17 year olds) from **ANY** background can be at risk of sexual exploitation. Box 2 lists those considered most vulnerable **Be mindful not to make assumptions**

Explain limits of confidentiality
(See box 3)

Introduce the questions

"These questions are to check that you are safe, and that no one is harming you, pressurising you to have sex, or feeling forced into doing anything sexual that you are unhappy or unsure about. This may include online chat messages sharing/receiving pictures of a sexual nature"

Complete CSERQ15 questions

Every child is unique. With over 100 potential risk indicators for CSE in common use,⁵ you may need to consider other risk indicators and protective factors.

Use professional judgement

If you have other concerns for the health, safety or welfare of a child you **MUST** complete a Duty To Report.

CSERQ5: 1 or more positive responses

CSERQ15: 5 or more positive responses suggests a significant risk of CSE.

You MUST complete a Duty To Report. However, if you have other concerns, you may decide to refer at a lower threshold.

Explain need to share information and seek consent (see box 4).

Complete a Duty To Report. If uncertain what action to take see box 5. Document your findings and action taken.

Box 1: Priority services⁴

- General Practice (and Primary Care)
- Sexual Health Services
- Sexual Assault Services
- Looked after children (LAC) teams
- Learning Disability Services
- Paediatric Services (Including Inpatient and Outpatients)
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) (Adult Mental Health Wards)
- Midwifery
- Health visiting
- School health Nursing
- Advice and counselling services
- Accident, Emergency (and Minor Injury) Services
- Welsh Ambulance Services

Box 2: Priority children and young people⁴

- CSE can affect **any** child or young person from **any** background, but some are more susceptible to CSE risks:
- Looked after children; especially those in residential care
- Children with disability or other physical/learning difficulties
- Children who are sexually active; those with sexually transmitted infection, and children/young people who are pregnant or seen for pregnancy testing, contraceptive advice and treatment, including emergency contraception
- Children with poor school attendance, and those who may go missing and stay away from home
- Children and young people with mental health illness
- Children who self-harm and/or have suicidal thoughts
- Children who abuse alcohol/substances
- Children with dysregulated or challenging behaviour
- Children experiencing violence at home including their own partner/ relationship violence

Box 3: Limits of confidentiality

Explain there are limits to confidentiality, which are there to keep all children safe and provide help and support. Explain if they disclose something that raises concern for their safety (or that of other children/young person) that you have a professional responsibility to complete a **Duty To Report**.

Box 4: Disclosure statement

It is important to always be **open and honest** and explain your concerns to the child: *"I am concerned that you may not be safe. I need to share my concerns with colleagues (e.g. in Children's Services) so that together we can help and support you."*

Remember that the safety of the child is paramount and if consent is refused you **MUST** still act; you have a professional responsibility to complete a **Duty To Report**.

Box 5: Uncertain what action to take?

Discuss your concerns with an appropriate person according to your child protection protocol. This may be your manager, child protection lead or duty social worker. Include responses to CSERQ (including protective factors) in your Duty To Report.