Risk assessment of psychiatric inpatients: a retrospective study  
BUZON, Audrey, LEISTEDT, Samuël\(^1\), LINKOWSKI, Paul\(^2\).  
June 2011, Université Libre de Bruxelles

**Objective**
The study examines the predictive validity of two risk assessment scales, the Historical Clinical Risk (HCR-20) and the Structured Assessment of PROtective Factors (SAPROF), following a “pseudo-prospective design”.

**Methods**
Two populations of patients who had been violent are selected. 
HCR-20 and SAPROF are completed for every patient with information from the patients’ files, and recidivism is searched retrospectively, within six months after release for population 1 and within a year after admission for population 2. 
Definition of violence used is: verbal or physical aggression, towards people or objects, with or without assault. Violence towards self has also been taken into account. Recidivism: every physical assault, towards people or objects or self; threads of violence, emprisonnement.

**Results**
Rate of recidivism was 38%. 45 patients’ scales were used. Using the Receiver Operating Characteristic, the AUC was 0,83 (0,71-0,96) for the HCR-20. For the SAPROF, the AUC reached 0,84 (0,71-0,97). The AUC for the combinaison of the two scales was 0,87 (0,76-0,98).

**Conclusions**
This study contributes to assess the utility of such scales as the HCR-20 and the SAPROF, and the need of further investigation in the area in Europe, especially for the SAPROF and in non-forensic populations.

\(^1\) Erasme Hospital, Brussels  
\(^2\) Erasme Hospital, Brussels