

# ***Risk Assessment in Offenders with an Intellectual Disability:***

## ***Study in a Belgian Forensic Setting***

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# Recidivism & Intellectual Disability

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- The prevalence of aggressive behavior among adults with ID : from 2.1% to 52% (Borthwick-Duffy, 1994; Cooper et al., 2009; Crocker et al., 2006; Emerson et al., 2001).
- Prevalence rates and recidivism of sex offenders with ID vary and are difficult to predict (Lindsay, 2009)
- Offenders with ID represent a subgroup of mentally disordered offenders that have been largely ignored in the literature on methods of risk assessment of future offending (Fitzgerald, Gray, Taylor, & Snowden, 2011).

# Risk assessment & Intellectual Disability

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- Gray et al. (2004) : risk assessment instruments like HCR-20 and VRAG = “all significant predictors of violent and general reconviction” in a sample of people with ID.
- In terms of predictors of sexual violence risk : (Lindsay et al., 2008)
  - Risk Matrix 2000-C discriminated between groups (high security/medium security)
  - The Static-99 showed a significant area under the curve for the prediction of sexual incidents.

# Problematic

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Due to inconsistencies in the definition of ID and the comparison of offenders with ID at different stages of the criminal justice system, it is not possible to conclude from this literature if a diagnosis of ID increases a person's risk of offending (Fitzgerald, Gray, Taylor, & Snowden, 2011).

This population present specific characteristics such as limited communication skills, environmental factors, etc. wich must be considered in the development of risk assessment and management tool in ID (Yacoub, & Latham, 2012).

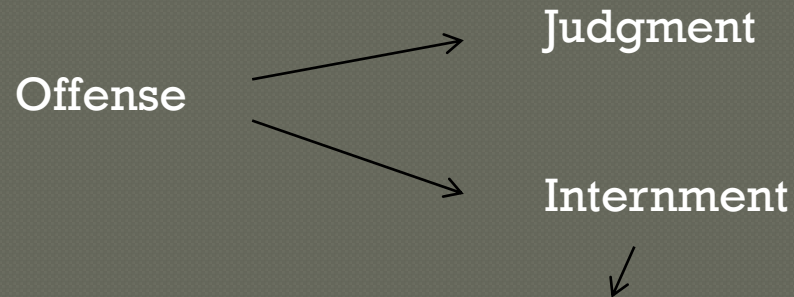
# Problematic

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In the commonly used structured clinical guideline instruments such as the HCR-20 (Webster, Douglas, Eaves, & Hart, 1997), the SVR-20, (Boer, Hart, Kropp, & Webster, 1997), the RSVP (Hart, Kropp, & Laws, 2003), the SARA (Kropp, Hart, Webster, & Eaves, 1995), the issue of environmental variables related to risk are primarily related to relationship problems, employment problems, assaultive behavior, and violations of supervision. Most of these variables require redefinition for application to ID individuals (Boer, & al, 2007).

# Social Defense Law in Belgium

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These patients are hospitalized under Belgium's Social Defense Law, an undetermined measure confinement of offenders recognized as incapable of controlling their action owing to mental disorder

(Moniteur Belge, 09 July 2014).

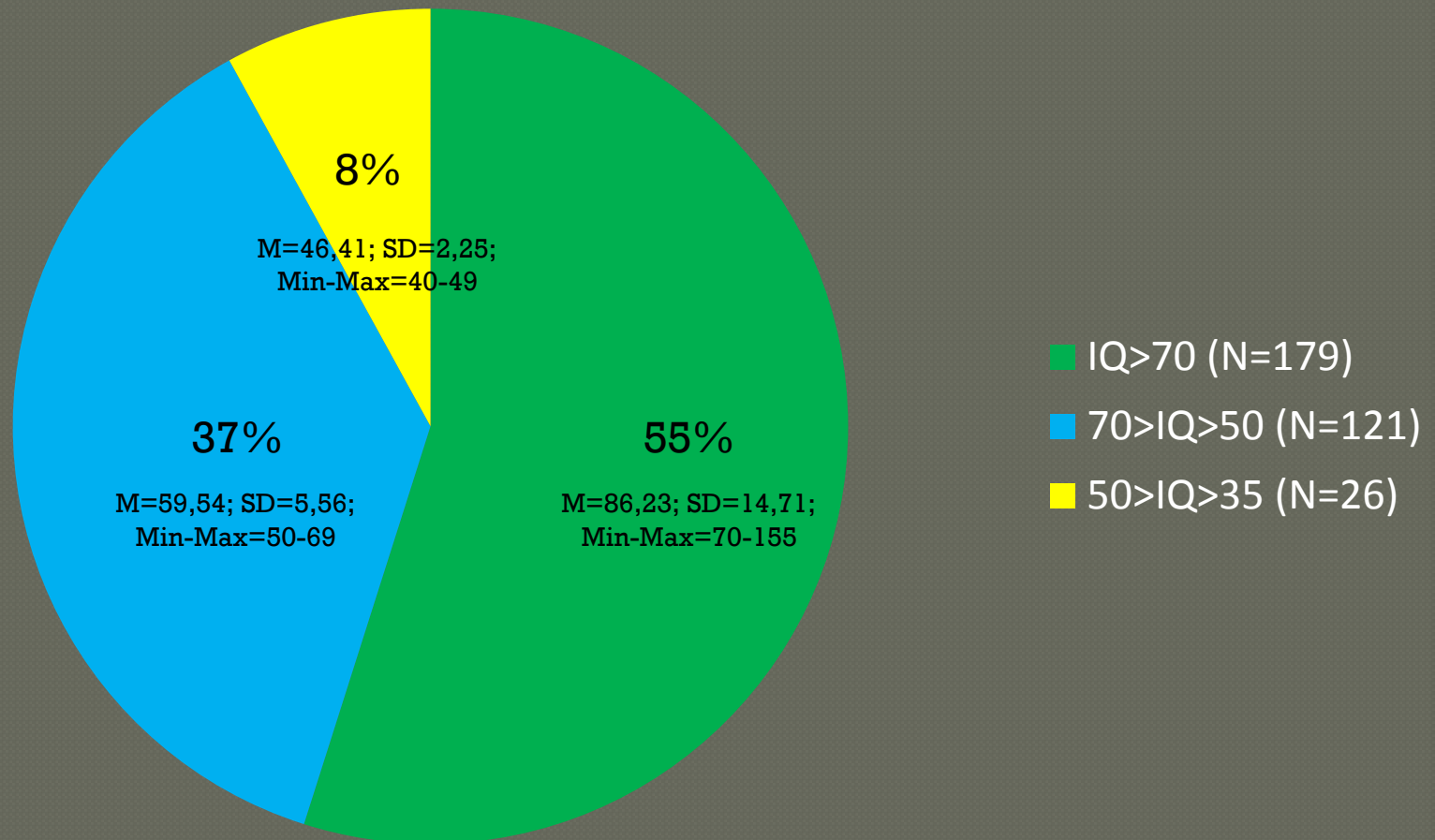
Historically :

1964 : State of dementia or in a serious state of mental disturbance or mental deficiency

So legislative evolution in favor of mental disorder rather than mental retardation

# Prevalence of low IQ in Social Defense

(CRP "Les Marronniers", Tournai, Belgium)



# Method

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# Institution

The sample is composed of forensic patients from the CRP “*Les Marronniers*”, in Tournai, Belgium. The facility has 350 offenders under its care, most of which present psychiatric disorders.

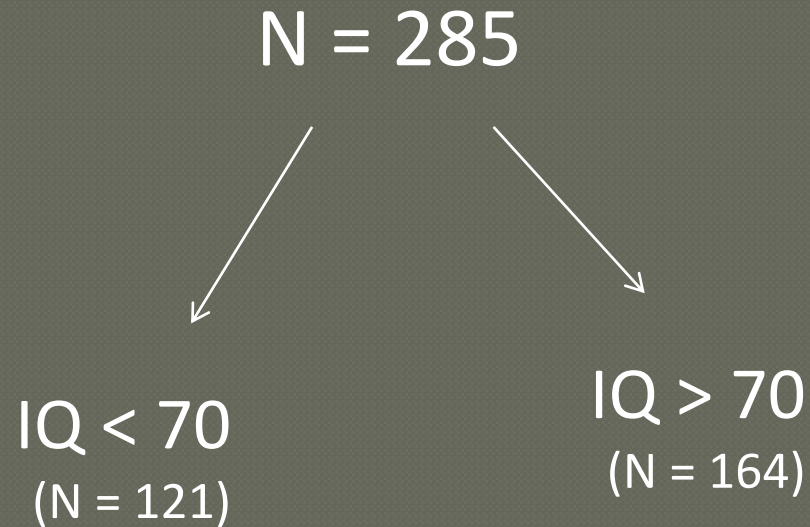


The sample was not representative of the entire Social Defense population. It essentially comprised the “stabilized” patients, as we excluded from the study those in an acute phase, as well as those with a pronounced intellectual deficiency for whom valid clinical evaluation could not be carried out.

# Participants

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The patients were assigned into 2 groups :



# Participants

	IQ<70 (N=121)			IQ>70 (N= 164)		
	M	SD	Min - Max	M	SD	Min - Max
Age	44.96	10.25	23.49 -78.14	47.57	11.61	23.65 – 83.03
IQ total score	57.22	7.18	40.0 – 69.0	86.22	14.70	70.0 – 155.0

# Evaluation Tools

## The Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (3rd edition) (WAIS-III)

- Authors : Wechsler (1997)

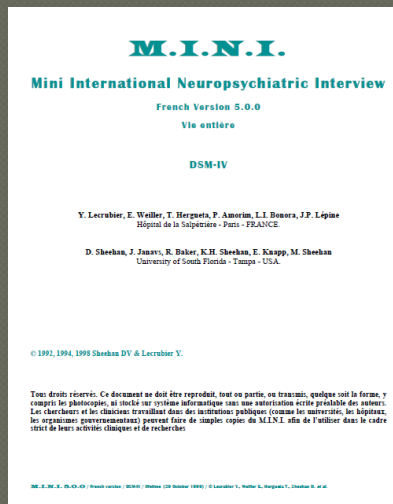


The WAIS-III is a test designed to measure intelligence in adults and older adolescents. It was released in 1997. It provided scores for Verbal IQ, Performance IQ, and Full Scale IQ, along with four secondary indices (VC, WM, PO, PS).

# Evaluation Tools

## The Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI)

- Authors : Sheehan, Lecrubier, Sheehan, Amorin, Janavs, Weiller et Dunbar (1998)

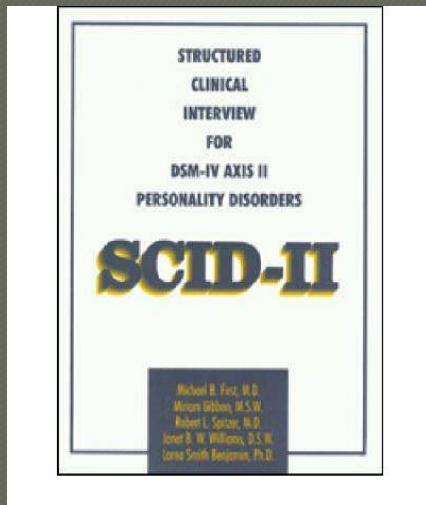


The MINI is a short structured diagnosis interview for DSM-IV and ICD-10 psychiatric disorders. This tool allows to determine a current/lifetime prevalence of explored different disorders.

# Evaluation Tools

## Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis II disorders (SCID-II)

- Authors : First, Spitzer, Gibbon, Williams, & Benjamin (1997)



The SCID-II is a diagnostic exam used to evaluate 12 personality disorders described in the DSM-IV (American Psychiatric Association, 1994). It consists of a self-assessment questionnaire (119 questions) and a semi-structured interview.

# Evaluation Tools

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## Violent Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG)

- Authors : Quinsey, Harris, Rice, Cormier (2006)



This instrument contains a 12-item actuarial scale which has been widely used to predict risk of violence within a specific time frame following release in violent, mentally disordered offenders.

# Evaluation Tools

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## Sex offenders Risk Appraisal Guide (SORAG)

- Authors : Quinsey, Harris, Rice, Cormier (2006)



The SORAG was designed to evaluate the risk of sexual and violent recidivism in sex offenders. It comprises 14 items, 10 of which were drawn from the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG; Harris, Rice, & Cormier, 1993) and 4 relate specifically to the risk of recidivism in sex offenders.



# Evaluation Tools

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## Historical, Clinical, Risk Management – 20 (HCR-20)

- Authors : Webster, Douglas, Eaves, Hart (1997)

The HCR–20 is a comprehensive set of professional guidelines for the assessment and management of violence risk. It consists of 20 items:

- 10 items related to ***historical factors*** (e.g. employment problems, history of mental illness);
- 5 items related to ***current clinical presentation*** (e.g. lack of insight, current symptoms of major mental illness);
- 5 items related to ***future risk factors*** (e.g. lack of personal support, non-compliance with remediation attempts).

# Evaluation Tools

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## Risk for Sexual Violence Protocol (RSVP)

- Authors : Hart, Kropp, & Laws (2003)

The RSVP is a sex offender risk assessment tool that follows the structured professional judgment approach to the assessment and management of sexual violence risk. It investigates 5 domains :

- Sexual Violence history*** (chronicity, diversity of sexual violence);
- Psychological adjustment*** (stress, coping, attitudes, ...);
- Mental disorder*** (sexual deviance, psychopathic personality, ...);
- Social adjustment*** (problem with intimate relationship, employment, ...);
- Manageability*** (problem with planning, with treatment or supervision).

# Results

## Group comparison

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# Length of Stay

(N = 285)	Length of Stay (years)			
	N	Mean	SD	Min-Max
IQ < 70	142	10,05	6,41	0,28-36,36
IQ > 70	167	9,26	7,19	0,31-38,42
<b>U Mann-Whitney Test</b>	<b>U=10418 ; p=.066</b>			

## Arrest and admission age

	IQ<70 (N=121)		IQ>70 (N=164)		U Mann- Whitney Test
	M	SD	M	SD	
Arrest age	31,03	8,97	34,55	11,65	9758,00**
Admission age	33,34	9,38	37,00	12,19	10289,50**

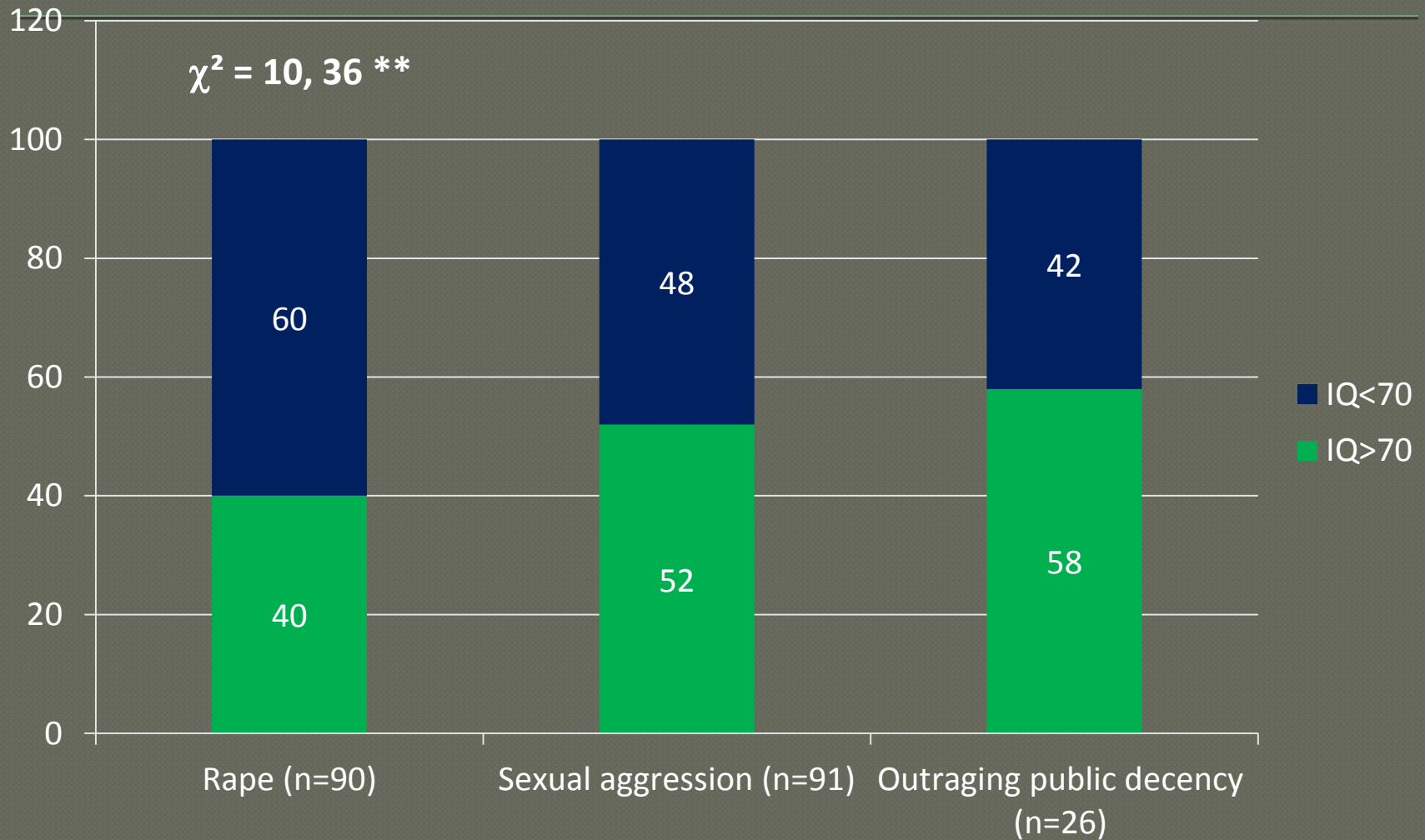
\*p<.05; \*\*p<.01

# Axis 1 and 2 disorders

		IQ < 70 (N=121)		IQ > 70 (N=164)		U Mann-Whitney Test
		M	SD	M	SD	
Axis 1	Total	1.49	1.88	1.78	1.72	8839.00 *
	Mood Disorders	0.53	0.92	0.52	0.89	10228.50
	Addictive Disorders	0.27	0.69	0.27	0.59	9922.00
	Anxiety Disorders	0.26	0.62	0.32	0.61	9679.50
	Psychotic Disorders	0.41	0.75	0.64	0.85	8871.00
Axis 2	Total	1.58	1.46	1.95	1.54	8484.00 *
	Cluster A "odd or eccentric"	0.35	0.57	0.55	0.73	8573.50 *
	Cluster B "dramatic, emotional or erratic"	0.96	0.99	0.93	0.87	9838.50
	Cluster C "anxious or fearful"	0.29	0.55	0.47	0.70	8617.00 *

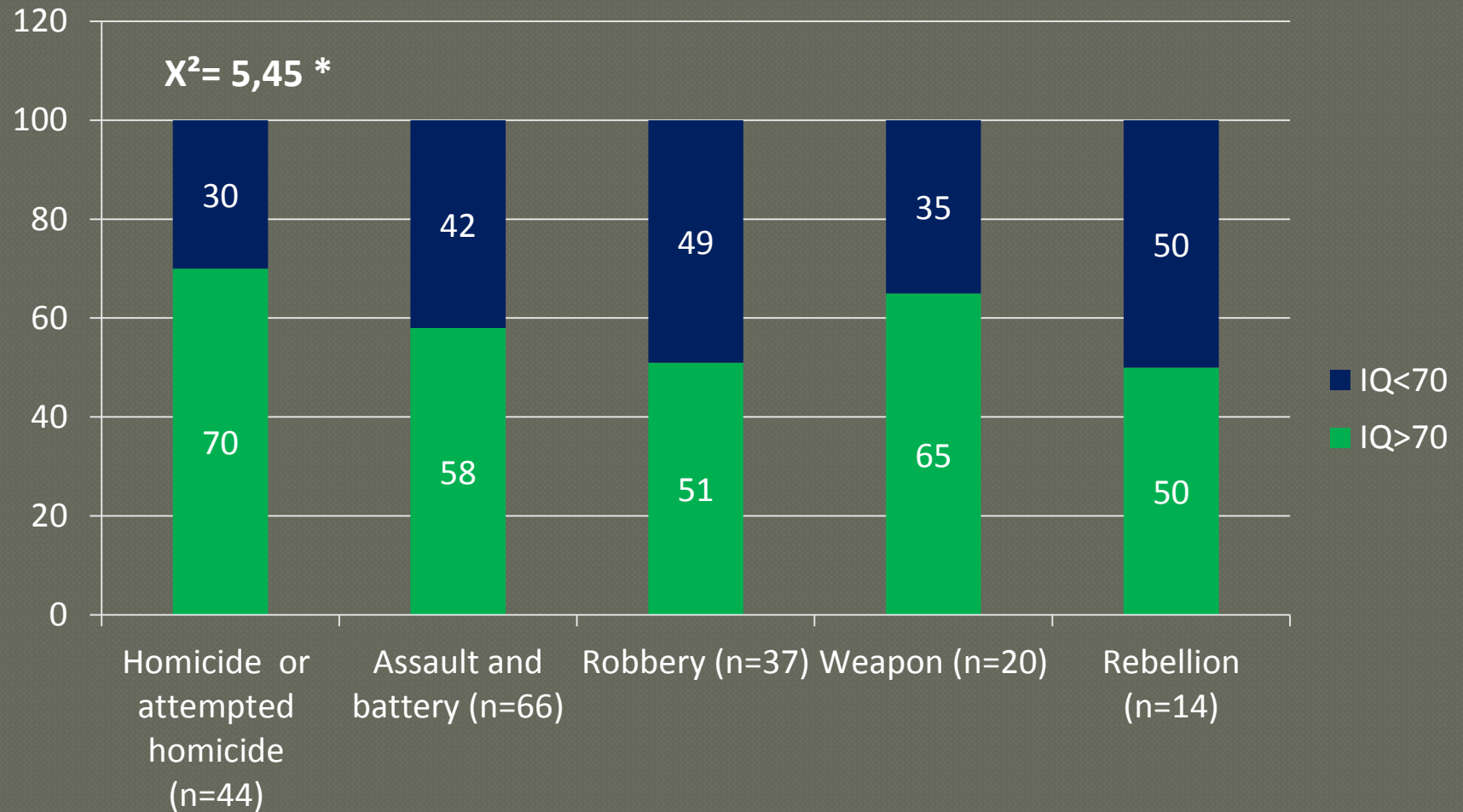
\*p<.05; \*\*p<.01

## Type of sexual offense (%)



\*p<.05; \*\*p<.01

# Type of violent offense (%)



\*p < .05; \*\*p < .01

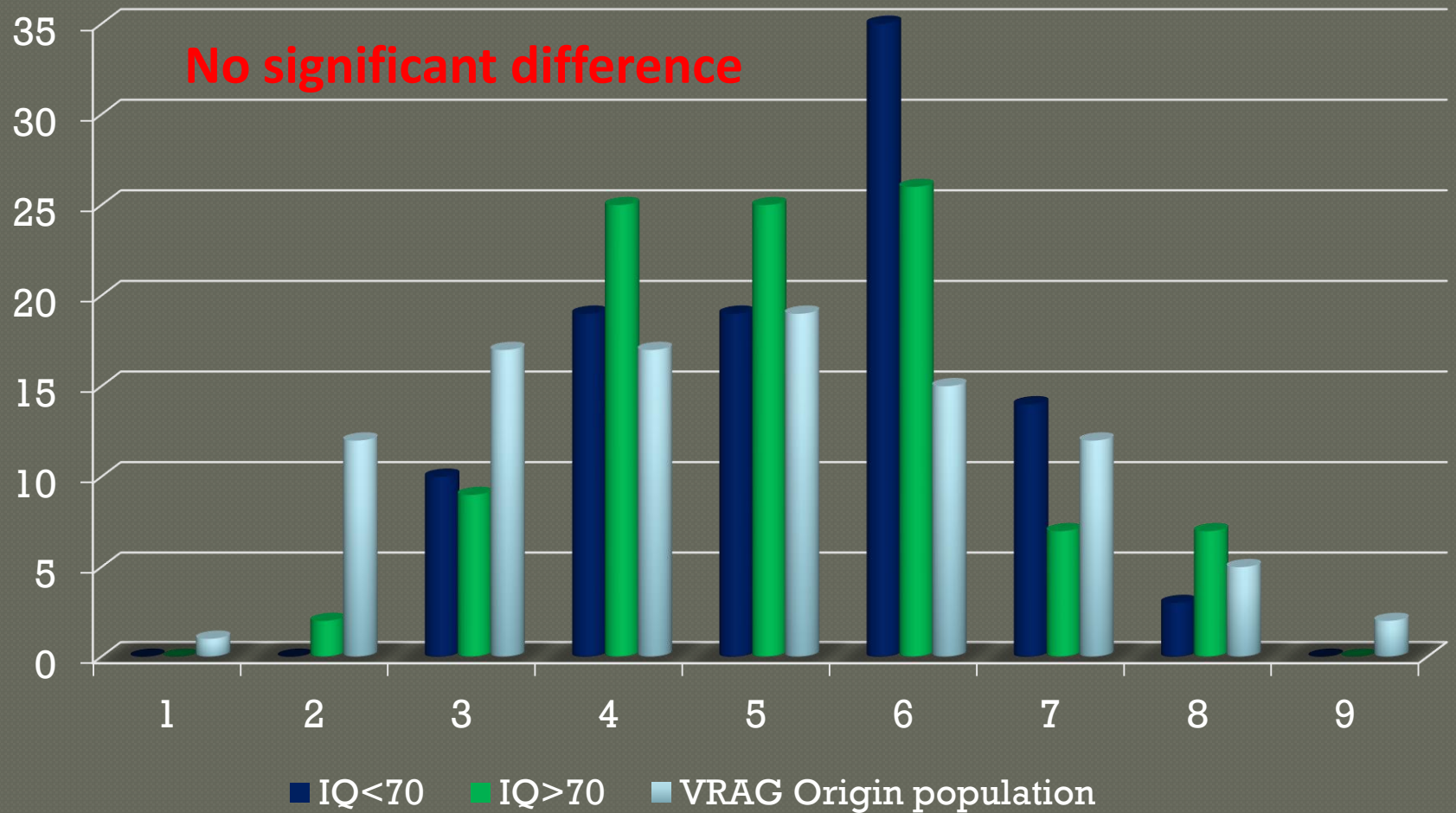


## Static Risk : VRAG / SORAG

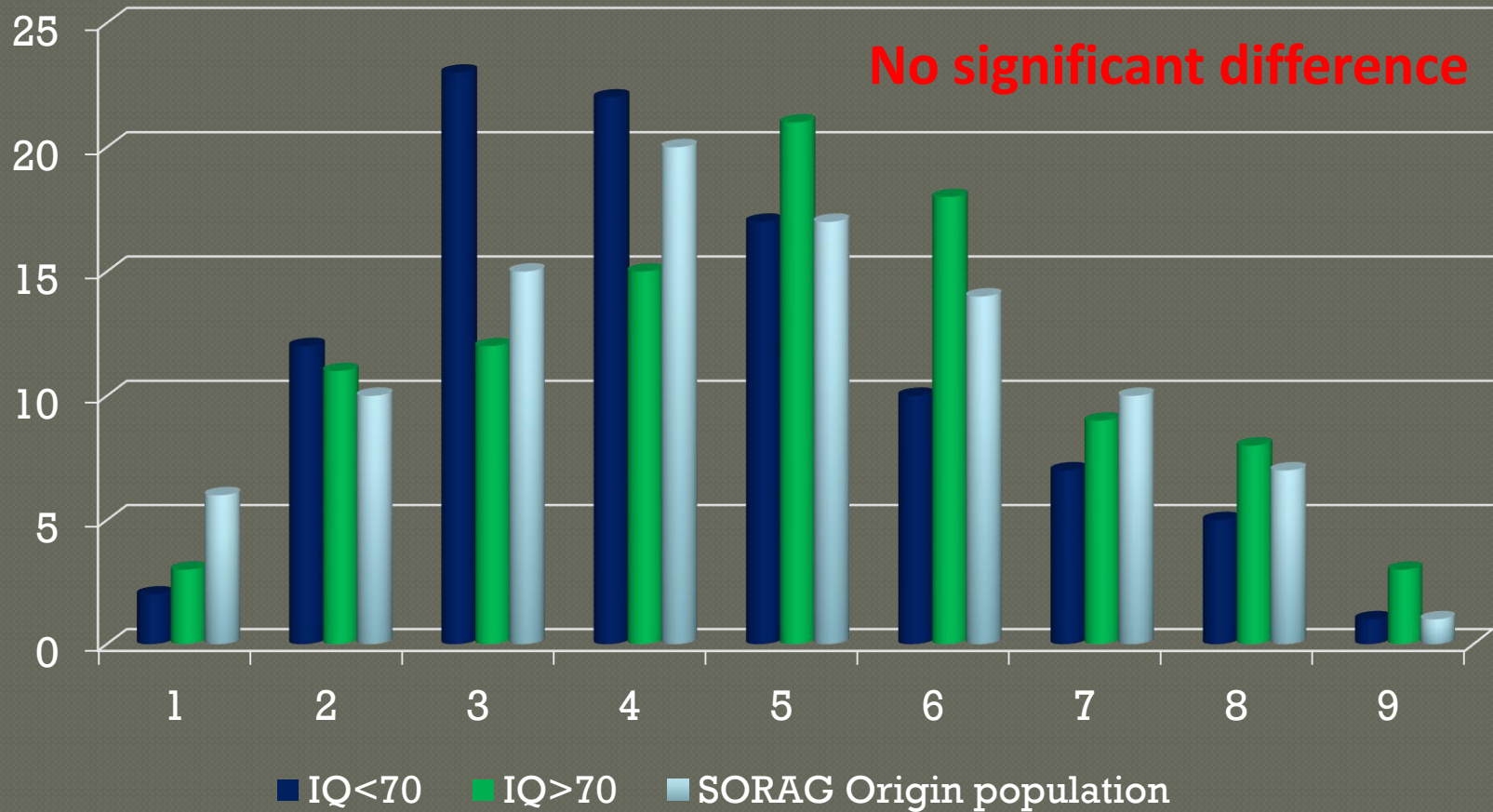
	IQ<70 (N=63/83)		IQ>70 (N=113/68)		U Mann-Whitney Test
	M	SD	M	SD	
VRAG Total score (N=176)	6,56	8,59	4,51	10,09	<b>3043,50</b>
SORAG Total score (N=151)	6,83	9,98	9,53	10,65	<b>2349,50</b>

Scores ranging from: VRAG: -26 à 38 / SORAG: -26 à 51

# VRAG : DISTRIBUTION OF RISK CATEGORIES (%)



# SORAG : DISTRIBUTION OF RISK CATEGORIES (%)



# Dynamic Risk : HCR 20

		IQ <70 (N=63)		IQ >70 (N=105)		U Mann-Whitney Test
		M	SD	M	SD	
HCR 20	Historical score	11.69	4.04	11.69	4.04	<b>3000.00</b>
	Clinical score	5.19	1.76	4.95	2.20	<b>3141.00</b>
	Future score	6.04	2.22	5.45	2.04	<b>2759.50</b>
	Total score	23.67	5.76	22.01	5.76	<b>2819.00</b>

\*p<.05; \*\*p<.01

# Dynamic Risk : RSVP

\*p<.05; \*\*p<.01

RSVP		IQ < 70		IQ > 70		U Mann-Whitney Test
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Sexual Violence History	Anterior	3.95	2.89	4.62	2.49	1936.00
	Recent	1.66	2.20	2.38	2.88	2007.00
	Future	2.70	2.30	3.94	2.25	1560.50 **
Psychological adjustment	Anterior	6.83	2.18	6.57	1.89	2078.50
	Recent	5.90	2.17	5.63	2.09	2004.00
	Future	5.74	2.06	5.46	2.04	2014.00
Mental disorder	Anterior	4.80	2.21	5.25	1.82	1898.00
	Recent	3.64	1.83	3.39	1.89	2111.50
	Future	3.99	1.86	3.58	1.62	1951.00
Social adjustment	Anterior	5.57	1.86	5.56	1.79	2214.50
	Recent	4.13	2.23	3.89	2.13	2135.00
	Future	4.45	1.97	4.23	1.76	2099.00
Manageability	Anterior	3.71	1.74	3.67	1.79	2230.50
	Recent	2.98	1.74	2.61	1.61	2052.00
	Future	3.16	1.64	2.96	1.39	2124.50

# Discussion

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# Discussion

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- High prevalence of offenders with ID ;
- Mental disorder :
  - Lower Axis 1 disorder
  - Lower axis 2 disorder (Cluster A & C)
- % of offenses :
  - Higher % of rape
  - Lower % of homicide
- Risk assessment : no difference

# Conclusions

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- ◉ Define specific needs :

- Management of risk :

- Specific unit care in forensic hospital/ Reinforced the ambulatory care (Mobile Team) according criminological and psychiatric profile patients with ID (Adaptated Care Trajectory)

- Evaluation :

- Intelligence : Adapative behaviors;
- Risk assessments :
  - Implementation of specific Risk assessment tools for adults with ID.



# Perspective

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- DRAMS - Dynamic Risk Assessment and Management System  
*(Lindsay & al., 2004)*
- ARMIDILLO - Assessment of Risk and Manageability of Individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Limitations who Offend - Sexually  
*(Boer, Haaven, Lambrick, Lindsay, McVilly, Sakdalan & Frize, 2013)*
- CuRV - Current Risk of Violence  
*(Lofthouse, Lindsay, Totsikae, Hastings and Roberts, 2014)*

# Thank you for your attention

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