Radius Child and Youth Services
Canada

Type of intervention

- Group Work
- Individual Work
- Family Work

Target groups, levels of prevention and sub-groups:

Tertiary Prevention

- (Potential Offenders)
  - Children (4-11 Years), Young People (12-17 Years), Young Adults (18-19 Years) | Male & Female | Group Work, Individual Work, Family Work | English

Tertiary Prevention

- Children and Young People (Victims)
  - Young Children (0-5 Years), Children (6-11 Years), Young People (12-18 Years) | Male & Female | Group Work, Individual Work, Family Work | English

Tertiary Prevention

- Communities / Families
  - Young Children (0-5 Years), Children (6-11 Years), Young People 12-18 Years, Parents Male & Female | Group Work, Individual Work, Family Work | Professional Training | Research

Target population

Adolescents aged 12-19 years who have engaged in sexually abusive behaviour within or outside of the family and their families.
Children aged 4-11 years who have engaged in concerning sexual behaviour
Children and adolescents aged 0 – 18 years who have experienced sexual abuse or interpersonal violence
Specialize in: Intrafamilial sexual abuse & reunification
Siblings of children and youth are also eligible for service
**Delivery organisation**

Radius is the province's largest provider of this specialized care. For almost 40 years, we have become a widely recognized leader in the field of abuse prevention and care. We are a multidisciplinary team comprised of social workers, psychotherapists, psychometrists, researchers, and psychologists.

**Mode and context of delivery**

Radius Child and Youth Services is a specialized community-based organization that provides clinical assessment and counselling services to children, youth and families affected by interpersonal abuse: physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, neglect, or who have witnessed domestic violence. Radius also offers services for children under 12 years old who have engaged in concerning sexual behaviour and adolescents who have engaged in sexually abusive behaviour. **Services at Radius are offered at no cost.**

The assessment and treatment services at Radius focus on strengths and challenges so that individuals and families can make changes necessary for healthy futures. In addition to our clinical work, we provide local, provincial, national, and international training and consultation on issues related to interpersonal violence, children under 12 years old who have engaged in problematic sexual behaviour, and adolescents who have engaged in sexually abusive behaviour. We also conduct research examining the populations we serve, which results in the development and promotion of best practice guidelines, counselling innovations, and increased public awareness that support prevention of abuse.

**Level/Nature of staff expertise required**

Qualified social workers, psychotherapists, psychologists, psychometrists, and psychiatrists who have completed training in the model.

**Intensity/extent of engagement with target group(s)**

Recommended intensity:
Dependent on treatment needs, although individual sessions typically run approximately 1-hour. In addition to individual therapy, the clinicians work with dyads, families, and groups (typically run weekly, for 2 hours).

Recommended duration:
Again, this is dependent on individual client needs. The average length of treatment is 18-24 months. The dyads, families, and groups typically run for 12-18 weeks.

**Description of intervention**

The essential components of Radius Child & Youth Services are individual treatment combined with regular dyad, family, and group therapy with up to 8-10 adolescents.

Researchers at Radius have developed a specialized risk-assessment tools: The ERASOR (Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism) and the AR-RSBP (Assessing Risk to Repeat Sexual Behaviour Problems...
Treatment is guided by the recommendations obtained from completing a comprehensive assessment, which includes psychological and clinical evaluations. Information obtained during the assessment includes, but is not limited to the following topics:

- family history & functioning
- developmental history
- physical health
- intellectual, academic and cognitive functioning and expression
- spiritual/cultural issues
- self-perception
- nonsexual delinquency
- potential traumatic experiences & impact
- sexual development & sexual behaviours
- sexual identity and sexual interest
- non-offensive sexual relationships
- knowledge of consent issues & sexual attitudes
- sexually abusive or problematic behaviours
- victim impact awareness
- knowledge of risk for engaging in sexually abusive behaviours & prevention awareness
- parental perception of strengths
- common treatment topics include (not necessarily for all adolescents): developing sexual abuse-prevention plans, enhancing parent-child communication/relationships, healing from childhood trauma, enhancing social relationships/intimacy, enhancing pro-social sexual attitudes, increasing accountability for sexually abusive behaviour, enhancing health sexual interests, developing a support network, enhancing affective expression/regulation, enhancing awareness of victim impact, enhancing self-esteem

- The philosophy behind Radius is that:
  - Vision: A community free from abuse, neglect and violence.
  - Mission: Radius Child and Youth Services helps children, youth and families build their futures free from abuse, neglect and violence.
  - Values:

**People First:**
Children, youth and families are at the heart of what we do and we celebrate their strengths with respect, passion and purpose.

**Better Together:**
Success is rooted in partnerships that lead to better results.

**Excellence Everyday:**
Achieving excellence starts with expecting the best of ourselves, promoting innovation and learning and fostering quality improvement.

**Integrity Focused:**
Honesty, fairness and openness shapes our relationships and actions.
**Evaluation**

This programme is rated as having promising research evidence by the California Evidence Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (see [www.cebc4cw.org](http://www.cebc4cw.org)). This rating is based on evidence from at least one study with controls. The information in this summary is based on that published by the California Evidence Clearinghouse for Child Welfare.

**References**

**JOURNAL ARTICLES**


© Lucy Faithfull Foundation 2015, Eradicating Child Sexual Abuse (ECSA)
Reference No: OT31 | CT21 | VT16
BOOK CHAPTERS

DOCUMENTATION/MANUALS
Responding to Adolescent Sexual Offending – Recommendations for a Regional Protocol
Sexual Decision Making – Your Personal Code

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