

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

The OARA template is now available in VERA to support the application of the SafeSide Framework in routine Open Arms practice.

This placemat has been produced to assist you with the next steps in the implementation of the SafeSide Framework and OARA, particularly if you are hesitant about jumping straight in and using the OARA instead of the RAMP.

Take the time to build your skills and confidence, and incorporate the SafeSide Framework comfortably and collaboratively.



REGIONAL LEADERS

- Guide your team in the adoption of the SafeSide Framework.
- Provide your team with orientation to the revised [policies](#) and their practical application – advise any issues.
- Provide support to build practice for team members individually and as a group, and address any concerns.
- Lead discussion of SafeSide implementation and OARA use during Case Review meetings
- Collaborate as an AD group in planning the implementation of SafeSide across all service streams.
- Contribute to the national implementation through participation in the Implementation Support Sessions, sharing regional approaches & achievements.



CLINICIANS

- Familiarise yourself with the SafeSide Framework and the OARA at your own pace. Implement both incrementally and comfortably. It's not a race and you are not alone if you don't feel fully confident using them yet.
- Reflect on your knowledge of the SafeSide framework and the OARA, and identify your strengths, gaps and any concerns – talk to your team and follow up on these yourself.
- **For existing clients** – if a RAMP is in place and it remains current and adequate, you do not need to replace it with an OARA unless clinically necessary or you wish to do so.
- **For new clients** – you do not need to jump in and use the OARA for all clients immediately. If you would like time to familiarise yourself and gain confidence with the OARA, start with ONE client only and keep using the RAMP for the others. Use this experience to practice your skills with the support of your team leader and colleagues. Build your confidence incrementally using your choice of RAMP or OARA for different clients, until you are completely comfortable integrating the SafeSide Framework and OARA fully in your practice.

If you need more help:

- Information about the SafeSide Framework is available [here](#) and the policies are [here](#).
- Use the [OARA Launch Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) Guide](#), the [OARA Walkthrough Video](#), the [Case Examples](#), or practise using the OARA template in the VERA [training platform](#) (using your existing VERA login).
- Attend the [SafeSide Community of Practice](#) and [SafeSide Office Hours](#) to share experiences with other clinicians and agencies using the SafeSide Framework



PEERS

Where you are working with a client who is receiving peer support only – use your knowledge of ASIST and SafeSide Frameworks, and consult with your clinical leadership to ensure that risk is managed collaboratively.

Where you are involved as part of a collaborative care team – provide input to the lead clinician to assist them to complete an OARA for the client.

Forthcoming changes to the Intake Form will mean that all clients will be risk assessed at Intake, irrespective of the service they will be receiving. Start date and practice guidelines for the new Intake Form will be advised.

CLINICAL SUPPORT STAFF

Awareness is important as an Open Arms staff member. SafeSide familiarisation sessions are available for all staff, please speak to your team leader.

How can we help you?

The SafeSide project team is eager to receive your feedback about the practical utility of the OARA during the implementation period. Should you have any queries or feedback regarding the SafeSide Framework or the OARA, and associated [policies](#), please use the [online form here](#) or contact the SafeSide project team at openarms.innovation@dva.gov.au