## **Risk Rating Scale**

The Risk Rating Scale provides defined criteria to help determine levels of risk which can then be plotted on a risk matrix to prioritize hazards. A sample scale is provided below.

|  |
| --- |
| Probability / Likelihood Rating |
| Very Likely | Happens daily or several times a week |
| Likely | Happens weekly or biweekly |
| Possible | Happens monthly |
| Unlikely | Happens once or twice a year |
| Highly unlikely | Extremely rare |

|  |
| --- |
| Severity Rating |
| Catastrophic | Fatality, coma, sever emotional trauma, cannot return to work |
| Critical | Severe injury – Loss of, or use of limbs, hospitalization, significant emotional trauma, extended period of time lost from work |
| Minor | Minor injury – bruises, cuts, moderate emotional trauma, lost work time |
| Insignificant | No injury, minimal emotional trauma, no lost work time |

|  |
| --- |
| Significance of the risk rating |
| Red | Significant and unacceptable risks – Address within 24 hours through a violence prevention plan. |
| Orange | Significant risks. Address within a week and include in the violence prevention plan |
| Yellow | Not significant for the purposes of requiring a violence prevention plan. Should be addressed through regular health and safety measures |
| No Colour | Not significant for the purposes of requiring a violence prevention plan. However, where feasible, you should attempt to eliminate or reduce the risk further. |

## Identify hazards and determine risk rating

In the Risk Assessment Matrix below, determine the risk rating (high, moderate, low or very low) for each hazard in the tool. Keep in mind previously- noted factors such as resident population, changes in acuity, workflow, and staffing skill set and competencies. If the hazard does not apply/exist, check the N/A (not applicable) box.

|  |
| --- |
| Risk Assessment Matrix |
|  | **Impact rating** |
| **Probability rating** | **Catastroph ic** | **Critical** | **Minor** |  **Insignificant** |
| **Very likely** | **High** | **High** | **High** | **Low** |
| **Likely** | **High** | **High** | **Moderate** | **Low** |
| **Possible** | **High** | **Moderate** | **Low** | **Very low** |
| **Unlikely** | **Moderate** | **Moderate** | **Low** | **Very low** |
| **Highly Unlikely** | **Low** | **Low** | **Low** | **Very low** |

(Adapted from NSAHO’s Workplace Violence Risk Assessment Template for Adult Residential Centres/ Regional Rehabilitation Centres, 2007)