



Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences Section – 2011

I13 **Problematic Sexual Behavior Among Juveniles: A Research Update on Identification, Risk Assessment, and Treatment**

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After attending this presentation, attendees will be familiar with the most current empirical literature on Problematic Sexual Behavior (PSB) in juveniles across three domains: phenomenology, risk assessment, and treatment. Attendees will understand the clinical implications of these findings and develop an appreciation for the strengths and limitations of the available scientific literature.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by providing attendees with a synthesis of the most current scientific literature on this pressing public health concern.

This presentation will provide a research update on three key topics related to PSB in juveniles: identification, risk assessment, and treatment. First, this presentation will review data on the prevalence and phenomenology of juvenile PSB, including common comorbid conditions, and possible etiologies. The importance of a developmental perspective will be emphasized, including knowledge about normative sexual development during adolescence, and the complexity of defining non-normative sexual behavior in this cohort. Second, this presentation will articulate a model for the practice of developmentally sensitive risk assessment with youth who engage in PSB. Given that PSB is not in itself a psychiatric diagnosis and no definitive actuarial measure of risk exists, empirically supported principles of risk assessment will be presented. Third, this presentation will conclude with a critical review of published outcome research on the treatment of PSB, including the limitations of extant data and future directions.

Juvenile, Sexual Behavior, Risk