Overview of PSRS Device Options and Features Tool

Visit: **pshsa.ca/workplace-violence**

Appendix D: Overview of PSRS Device Options and Features Tool

How to use this tool

1. After completing the Appendix C: PSRS Needs Assessment determine the PSRS device type(s) or category that protects workers, complies with legislation and meets the needs of the organization. More than one type of device may be required.
2. Using the chart below review the features needed that would work best to protect workers in their environment and situations.
3. Consider the WPV risks and whether they are have occurred or are likely to occur; and any possible exposure to patients/persons with a history of violent behaviour or risk of violent behaviour, work situations and what activities are at the workplace. Refer to the WPVRA. Here is the link to the PSHSA Workplace Violence Risk Assessment toolkit.
   a) What is the likelihood of exposure to workplace violence very likely, likely, possible, unlikely, highly unlikely? What if it's possible or unlikely what recommendation does the risk assessment tool suggest?
   b) What is the potential severity of injury that could be sustained catastrophic, critical, minor or negligible?
   c) What is the overall risk to the workers high, moderate, low or very low?

   More advanced and multi-purpose PSRS devices may be recommended for certain environments and workers who are exposed or likely to be exposed to workplace violence, work situations and activities where response time is critical to reduce the risk of injury to workers and where locating workers may be critical.

4. Take the following into consideration:
   a) Are the work activities onsite, offsite or both?
   b) What is the best way to communicate that help is needed in the situation and that meets legislated requirements?
      I. Two-way communication e.g., phone, pager, multi-purpose communication device?

    II.   Voice mediated alert that provides one way voice communication instructions to act e.g., code white e.g. public address in combination with other devices

    III.   Audible alert e.g., noise maker (where others are trained and can respond)

    IV.   Visual alert e.g., quiet alert such as panic button for reception

c) Will the worker be working alone where no one can see or hear worker onsite or offsite or in remote regions?

    I.   Do they need people nearby to respond to an alert or is the alert automated?

    II.   Do they need access to hardwired physical alarms or landlines?

    III.   Do they need or have access to WiFi and enough wireless hubs to ensure no dead zones?

    IV.   Do they need or have access to cellular towers for cell phone use?

    V.   Do they need or have access to blue tooth in the workplace or while driving?

    VI.   Do they need or have access to satellite e.g., off the grid?

    VII.   Do employees need to check in and check out when engaging clients?

d) Will workers need the device to work for multiple purposes e.g., communicate with others including patients or other persons, send a signal that they have been activated and help is on the way?

e) Will workers need GSP locating, no motion or man-down detection, fall detection (working at heights), beacon location detection for remote workplaces?

f) Will workers using a phone or pager have time to initiate a call for help or do they need an emergency button phone application to reduce response time?

g) Does the organization want to own and operate the devices?

h) Does the organization want an external provider to monitor workers?

i) Does the organization want the flexibility offered by multiple device integration depending on worker needs that meets legislated requirements e.g., Vocera?

j) Does the worker need to carry a device with them or can it be accessed onsite in the workplace?

| | Overview of PSRS Device Options and Features | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Device Category | General PSRS Features | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Comments |
	Audible Alert	Visual Alert	Voice Mediated	Mobile Emergency / Panic Button	Automated Employee Check-in & Check-out	One-Way Voice Communication	Two-Way Voice Communication	GPS Locating Technology	Two way text messaging	No motion or Man Down Detection	Fall Detection	Beacon Location Technology	24/7 Monitoring	Blue Tooth Wireless	Satellite – Remote or Off The Grid	Own and Operate Devices	Remote Host Operated	Other	Features vary with products
Wireless / Internet Web-Based Communication e.g., Vocera	X	X	X	X	X		X	X					X	X		X		Onsite Only; Integrations with Clinical Applications	Multiple devices options– phone, cell, tap badges, computer, tablet, nursing alarms system. Needs WiFi, offers reports
Standalone - Lone Worker Devices			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	On / Off Site, Remote, Driving	Variable features available. May use WiFi, cell, satellite communication technologies
Cellular Phone with Working Alone App			X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X				X		On / Off Site	WiFi and Cellular/Mobile Communications
Cellular Phone			X				X		X									On / Off Site	WiFi and Cellular/Mobile Communications
Landline Phone Digital Phone			X				X											On / Off Site	Can be used with other technologies

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
Two Way Radio			X				X	X									On / Off Site	Variable distances Variable features
Pagers						X	X		X								On / Off Site	Variable features
Alert Button or Security Badge	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	On / Off Site	Variable Products Available with Variable Features and Prices
Public Address System or Intercom	X	X	X		X	X	X										Typically Hardwired At location	Variable Products Variable Activation Methods
Physical Alarms: Panic Button with strobe, alarm, siren	X	X	X			X											Typically Hardwired At location	Variable Products
Noise Maker e.g., whistle, screamer badges	X																On / Offsite	Relies on Others Nearby e.g., to physically hear and respond, and to have sufficient and trained staff in all areas of the work

Note that products options and features change with time. Within each category various device versions with many features are available. The onus is on each organization to investigate the devices within the category they select to ensure the device they choose meets their specific needs. This chart is only to be used as a general guide.