

Victims' Code of Practice

Right 4: Initial victim needs assessment (IVNA)

The IVNA should:

1. Determine if the victim needs support.
2. Establish the type of support needed.
3. Assess whether the victim is vulnerable or intimidated.
4. Consider whether the victim is entitled to **enhanced rights**.



IVNA considerations:

- ◆ Age/gender.
- ◆ Language/communication barriers.
- ◆ Religious/cultural influences.
- ◆ Intimidation.
- ◆ Were they persistently targeted? (Crimes do not have to have been recorded for this to apply).
- ◆ Trauma.
- ◆ Are they vulnerable - consider situational vulnerabilities and relationship to the offender (stranger or known etc).
- ◆ Medical issues - including cognitive impairment (consider intermediary).
- ◆ Safeguarding risks.
- ◆ Practical concerns - work, dependents, finance.

Remember:

- ◆ Record the IVNA.
- ◆ Revisit the IVNA.

Use the IVNA to capture the victim's:

- ◆ preferred method of contact
- ◆ frequency of contact
- ◆ safest means of contact
- ◆ associated risks of contact