

RAPIDS - Responsive Assessment Planning Intervention Diversion Service

RAPIDS conducts drug and alcohol assessment for clients who are currently or will be placed on a community corrections order and provides an immediate link between all Victorian Courts, Corrections and the Alcohol & Other Drugs (AOD) treatment sector, to ensure a seamless transition from initial assessment to treatment with a community agency for the highest risk forensic clients.

Who can refer to RAPIDS?

If you are a community corrections officer who is currently supervising an offender on a community corrections order or if you are a magistrate who is likely to place an offender on a community corrections order and have significant concerns about the offender's current drug and alcohol use, you may be able to refer the client to RAPIDS for drug and alcohol assessment and referral to drug and alcohol treatment.

RAPIDS criteria

When determining whether a client qualifies for RAPIDS, ask the following questions:

- Is the client on a Community Corrections Order with an Assessment and Treatment for Drug and/or Alcohol condition or are they anticipating being placed on one?
- Is the client currently engaged in treatment?
- Is the client currently using substances?
- Does the client present with multiple and complex needs such as dual diagnosis and/or disability?
- Is the individual at risk of harm to self due to their drug and alcohol issues (ie overdose, self harm)?
- Is the individual at risk of harming others due to their AOD issues?
- Is the client at risk of reoffending due to their AOD issues?
- Has the client failed to engage in several COATS assessments?

Referring to RAPIDS

If you would like to refer a client to RAPIDS, please call 9413 7000 and ask to speak to the RAPIDS intake worker. Make sure you have the following information ready as it will make the referral process more seamless:

- Name
- Date of birth
- CCS/Court location
- CCO and their contact details

Complete a referral form and send it though to referral@acso.org.au and attention it RAPIDS along with the client's current order – this must be obtained prior to the assessment date.

How soon can I obtain a RAPIDS assessment?

RAPIDS provides same-day AOD assessments, dependent on receiving referrals within agreed time frames, and written reports brokering treatment to community based providers within 2-5 days, depending on the offender's circumstances. Where appropriate, a same day assessment can be conducted by a Regional COATS assessor.

What happens after a RAPIDS assessment is completed?

Verbal feedback is provided to the Judge, Magistrate, or Community Corrections Officer (CCO), along with a written report to AOD treatment providers and the CCO within two working days. RAPIDS clients receive priority appointments for treatment dependent on the treatment agencies' clinical guidelines.

Is there any immediate support for clients?

YES! RAPIDS assessors will screen for, identify, and recommend the need for additional '*bridging support*'. This support will be provided by RAPIDS assessors and is a brief intervention service designed to assertively engage and ensure optimal AOD outcomes for high risk or high needs clients.