

QC30 Violence Risk Assessment and Management

Transcript 1: Peter interview

Vimeo link: <https://vimeo.com/522546286/0b0b9b6f74?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

[RELAXING MUSIC]

VIKAS MODGIL: Hi, Peter.

PETER: Hey.

VIKAS MODGIL: Vikas Modgil, I'm the psychiatrist here.

PETER: Vikas. Hey, how are you doing?

VIKAS MODGIL: Good, good. I'm here to talk to you, just trying to understand the issues which brought you to hospital this time. Then we'll explore things with you and see what can be done to help you in the best possible way. Is that all right?

PETER: Yeah, yeah. Anything that gets me out of here would be good.

VIKAS MODGIL: Yeah. Look, in order to sort of decide what needs to happen, we need to understand how come you came to hospital this time, OK?

PETER: Yeah.

VIKAS MODGIL: So let me know, what's your understanding of how come you end up in hospital this time?

PETER: My sister was a bit worried about me and brought me in. And so...

VIKAS MODGIL: Your sister's name is?

PETER: Rebecca. Yeah. But I don't think she's got it right. I think it's-- I'm fine, man. I'm ready to go home soon.

VIKAS MODGIL: So, what was Rebecca worried about?

PETER: I think she was just sort of worried that I was just, I don't know. I think she worries for no good reason. And I told her some things about Steve, her boyfriend. And I just don't think she got it. I think he's got it over her. And she just believes Steve rather than me and thought maybe they're getting on well. But I don't think it's a problem.

VIKAS MODGIL: So, what are you worried about?

PETER: Oh, he's not a good guy.

VIKAS MODGIL:	How come?
PETER:	I don't know. I just know he's a good guy. I worried about-- he might do something. I was really worried about a week ago. I was a bit more worried back then, but now I'm not so worried about it. And yeah, I just think he's a bad dude. And he might either do some things to hurt her or might even, yeah, be a risk to other people or kids.
VIKAS MODGIL:	So, what makes you think that he's at risk to Rebecca and to other people?
PETER:	Oh, it's just a sense I have. I get information, and I just get a sense that he's a bad dude.
VIKAS MODGIL:	So, you're getting information from who?
PETER:	Oh, I just sort of get a sense about people. Like, I could read people really well. And yeah, I guess I have some sort of understanding and connection, but with people who are in the know. So yeah, sometimes I just get some information from these people.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Who are these people?
PETER:	Oh, they're just people in the know that really know what's going on and so just helps me look out for other people and protect people and stuff.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Are the voices telling you anything specific about Steve or Rebecca or anybody else?
PETER:	No, not at the moment. They just talk about Steve, really.
VIKAS MODGIL:	What kind of things they were talking about Steve?
PETER:	Oh, that he's just a bad dude and that he might just do the wrong thing. And he's going to cheat on her. And he likes kiddies and...
VIKAS MODGIL:	What do you mean by that?
PETER:	That he's a bit of a pedo and then I should worry. And I was worried, and I was watching him. And I'm going to look out for my sister and do what I need to do.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Do you have a mission, like you're protecting your sister? Do you have a mission to protect other people?
PETER:	Yeah. Like, whoever's in danger, that's what I do, whoever's in danger.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Is anybody else in danger, apart from sister?
PETER:	I don't know, not at the moment.
VIKAS MODGIL:	In the hospital?

PETER:	No.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Do you have any plan now to teach Steve a lesson?
PETER:	No.
VIKAS MODGIL:	But you said your sister doesn't believe you, and he is a bad person.
PETER:	Yeah. But I don't think it's that bad at the moment because, I don't know. Like, I'm not hearing as much about him, so I don't think it's as much of a problem at the moment. So, it's all good. I'm ready to go home.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Did you confront him?
PETER:	No, no. I just sort of talked to her and then just keep an eye on him sort of thing. But I sort of talked a bit more about a week ago. And then she was worried about me. So that's why she brought me in.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Did you think that she was not understanding you, she was dismissing you?
PETER:	I don't know. Yeah, I think he just manipulates her and stuff.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Do you keep something to protect your sister, in case it gets too much overboard?
PETER:	Oh. I mean, I know where the knives are in the house and stuff. Yeah. So if I had to, I'd do whatever needs to be done, you know?
VIKAS MODGIL:	Have you used knives?
PETER:	Have I used knives?
VIKAS MODGIL:	Previously, to attack?
PETER:	No, no. I just put them in a place where I could get them.
VIKAS MODGIL:	OK.
PETER:	Yeah. I never stabbed anyone or anything, man. Yeah. I've had a fight, or I've had fights. I'd punch him too, if I had to. But yeah, when it gets serious, I want to know where stuff is if I need to. I've been in the house about a month and started to get an idea about him about a couple of days I was there.
VIKAS MODGIL:	How big is the knife?
PETER:	It's like, I don't know, like a knife that you cut up stuff with, like...
VIKAS MODGIL:	Steak knife or...
PETER:	A kitchen knife or a carving knife or something. Yeah.

VIKAS MODGIL:	Do you keep it with you, or you know you can get it from kitchen?
PETER:	No. I put it in a special spot near my room, that I can get to it. So, it's not in the kitchen.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Have you told your sister about that?
PETER:	No. I don't need to. I'd never hurt her, man. I'm just like...
VIKAS MODGIL:	No. It's all right.
PETER:	I'm just like, I'm a good guy. I'm going to look after her.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Apart from knife, have you got access to any other weapon? Guns?
PETER:	No. I mean, if I had to, I'd shoot him. But I don't have a gun or anything.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Did you ever have a gun previously for shooting or hunting?
PETER:	No. No.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Have you ever had a gun licence, or do you own, you have a gun licence, maybe one of your friend or somebody?
PETER:	Yeah, no, no. No, no.
VIKAS MODGIL:	You've been in here for five days. Are you here under the Mental Health Act or...
PETER:	It's a long time. I think so.
VIKAS MODGIL:	OK. And are you on some medications or treatment?
PETER:	Yeah.
VIKAS MODGIL:	What do you think of that?
PETER:	I don't know. I don't think it does a lot. It's all right. I have to take it, so I take it. I just want to go home, see my sister and stuff. That's all.
VIKAS MODGIL:	So, for months, you've been with your sister.
PETER:	Yeah. I came up from Sydney.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Did you have any trouble with law during that time?
PETER:	Oh, my uncle was just sort of carrying on and stuff. And I knew he was just being a bit of a problem with my mum. So...
VIKAS MODGIL:	Who's your uncle? What's the name?

PETER:	Tim.
VIKAS MODGIL:	What was the evidence that you had that Tim wasn't...
PETER:	I just know. Like, I hear from the group, and they tell me stuff. And it matches up. And I just know that they're right. They've always been right, man. So, I talked to mum. And like, Tim's a real smooth talker again, a bit like Steve. And he just sort of told her it wasn't a problem and stuff and call the police, but the police didn't really buy into it either. So, I don't know. He won't be coming near her. That's for damn sure.
VIKAS MODGIL:	How? What happened?
PETER:	Oh, I just touched him up a bit.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Did he require hospitalisation?
PETER:	I don't know. I just touched him up and left.
VIKAS MODGIL:	So did your mum or Tim report to police?
PETER:	Huh?
VIKAS MODGIL:	This matter was reported to police at that time in Sydney?
PETER:	Oh, I don't know. Like, police came and talked to them. And they didn't really buy into it either. And then they left, and I touched him up and came up here.
VIKAS MODGIL:	So, when you were in Sydney, for how long have you been having these voices and the sense that you know a lot about people?
PETER:	I don't know, years.
VIKAS MODGIL:	For years. How many years are we talking about?
PETER:	I don't know. When I was in Queensland, like, six years ago, it was happening, so more than that.
VIKAS MODGIL:	All right. Do you find it distressing?
PETER:	No. It gives me, I got a job to do. I worry about people near me, and I worry about the kiddies. But it just gives me something to make sure things don't happen, sort of my job.
VIKAS MODGIL:	I'm going to move away from current situation now to, say, you were [INAUDIBLE] in Queensland. That was six years ago, you said.
PETER:	I don't know about that, six or seven, yeah. Yeah.
VIKAS MODGIL:	So, at that time, you had your first contact with mental health services.

PETER:	Yeah. I don't know. I think so. You probably know more than me.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Your experiences now at, what is similar to what happens six or seven years ago?
PETER:	Yeah. Well, I don't know. It happens all the time. Sometimes the voices are really there, and sometimes they're not. So, there's not really a problem. So, they're not really always there.
VIKAS MODGIL:	So, the voices fluctuate. What makes them better? Do you feel sometimes
PETER:	What do you mean, better?
VIKAS MODGIL:	When there are no voices.
PETER:	No, it's good when I hear them. Like...
VIKAS MODGIL:	You feel good about it.
PETER:	Yeah. Well, I know what's going on. They're keeping me in the loop.
VIKAS MODGIL:	People sometimes use alcohol, drugs. Do you use them?
PETER:	Oh, not a lot. But I like a drink, and sometimes I pop a few pills and stuff, but nothing too major.
VIKAS MODGIL:	When you say pills, is like amphetamines?
PETER:	No, sort of like most. Like, when I'm listening too much to the group, I don't sleep and stuff. So, I'll get some Valium or some Xanax or something like that and have them with the alcohol. It helps me sleep.
VIKAS MODGIL:	OK. Have you used any of the intravenous?
PETER:	No.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Illicit drugs or snorted something?
PETER:	No. Not really. They reckon I've got schizophrenia, but I don't know.
VIKAS MODGIL:	Now, you've been here for five days. Are the voices telling you about other people? Like, you're in the hospital, any other nurse or a doctor?
PETER:	Oh, oh. No, no, no. No.
VIKAS MODGIL:	The last five days, you think, what you're saying is your views about Steve are changing?
PETER:	Oh, no. I'm always going to keep an eye on him, eh? I just know, I just get a sense that things aren't as bad as what they were, so I don't have to worry so much.

VIKAS MODGIL:	Have you reported Steve to police? Because if he's a paedophile, you know he is. Have you reported him to police?
PETER:	Oh. I've done that. I did that with Uncle Tim and stuff. But I don't know. Police are easily convinced otherwise. So...
VIKAS MODGIL:	You do not have access to guns?
PETER:	No.
VIKAS MODGIL:	OK. You don't have any side effects from medications, but you don't believe you got schizophrenia?
PETER:	Yeah. I don't want to get fat. But I want to be able to sleep, though.
VIKAS MODGIL:	OK. So, you need some treatment adjustment for sleep. You don't take this medication because the doctor's telling you otherwise. You don't think there's any need for medications.
PETER:	I don't think I've got schizophrenia.
VIKAS MODGIL:	OK. We'll look into fine-tuning your medications. But to properly decide about what to do next, I need to collate the thoughts which, you have told me all the history, need to look at the old notes. And I'll appreciate if I can talk to your sister, Rebecca, and your mum.
PETER:	Yeah, don't talk to Seve but talk to my sister and my mum. That's all right
VIKAS MODGIL:	I also need to talk to what we call as mental health intervention coordinators, who are the people who can help us clarify to whether there are any other police matters outstanding or previous criminal history.
PETER:	There's nothing, but you could talk to them. I'm a good dude. Like
VIKAS MODGIL:	OK. We'll talk to them. Yeah. OK. But I'll keep you posted on the medications and any other things, the developments which take place. But thank you for talking to me. I appreciate that.
PETER:	No worries.
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QC30 Violence Risk Assessment and Management

Transcript 3: Peter collateral (audio only)

Vimeo link: <https://vimeo.com/1182851761/70a284daa9?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

[PHONE RINGING]

REBECCA: Hello?

VIKAS MOGIL: Is this Rebecca?

REBECCA: Yes. This is Rebecca.

VIKAS MOGIL: Hi, Rebecca. This is Vikas Mogil from the mental health ward. I wanted to talk to you about Peter. Is it a good time?

REBECCA: Yes, this is fine. What's up?

VIKAS MOGIL: Well, I'm trying to get some more details about Peter. As you know, Peter has been a bit unwell. And I wanted to get your opinion about how things are going.

REBECCA: OK.

VIKAS MOGIL: Before we start, I just want to give you some information about how confidentiality works here. Peter signed a consent form, giving us permission to share information with you and your parents. I will take notes while we talk, and these will go into Peter's clinical file. There's always a possibility that Peter could access his personal file via the Rights to Information Act. And in this case, he would have to access my notes. Are you worried about your own personal safety if Peter gets access to his records?

REBECCA: No, I'm not worried. I'm not going to say anything that's not true.

VIKAS MOGIL: Good. Do you have any questions before we go on?

REBECCA: No, that's fine.

VIKAS MOGIL: First of all, how long has Peter been living with you?

REBECCA: About a month. He was with mum and dad in Sydney before then. But he got into a fight with Uncle Tim, so he had to leave. Actually, he was pretty unwell, I think. Mum and Dad were worried about him. He was saying odd things about Tim and calling the cops and stuff.

VIKAS MOGIL: What kind of odd things?

REBECCA:	Well, he thought Uncle Tim was hurting Mum. He said the Illuminati told him so. And he was just a bit weird around Uncle Tim at first. Then he was asking mum if Uncle Tim had hurt her.
VIKAS MOGIL:	But do you think your Uncle Tim was hurting your mum?
REBECCA:	Oh, no way. Mum wouldn't put up with any violence in her house. And if Uncle Tim and Mum had a fight, Mum would tell everyone. She wouldn't keep it quiet. They thought it was just Peter having one of his weird moments. But then he called the cops and said Uncle Tim had hurt Mum. So, the cops came round and spoke to her and my uncle, and they warned Peter for making up stories and misusing 000. And then they left. Oh, yeah. And before that, Peter sent me text messages with photos of Mum, saying, see the bruise?
VIKAS MOGIL:	Are there any bruises?
REBECCA:	No, there was nothing-- maybe a shadow or something. That's when I knew stuff going on with Peter was serious. And straight after the thing with the police, when Uncle Tim came over to visit, Peter ran to him in the front yard and started punching him. Mum said Uncle Tim was on the ground in a heartbeat, and Peter just kept swinging punches. Mum and Dad and the neighbours ran out and yelled at Peter, and he stopped and ran away.
VIKAS MOGIL:	That looks very serious. Did Peter later say why he punched your uncle?
REBECCA:	Just that Uncle Tim was a pig and he'd hurt Mum. Also, he'd been saying other strange things, like what he says to Steve, my boyfriend.
VIKAS MOGIL:	What kind of things?
REBECCA:	Oh, like I know what you really are, I know what you've done, stuff like that.
VIKAS MOGIL:	I see. And how's your uncle?
REBECCA:	Well, he's OK. He had to go to hospital for scans. He had bruising and headaches.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Hospital? Were the police called again.
REBECCA:	No. Mum and Dad were focused on getting Uncle Tim some help. And while they were doing that, Peter packed his things and left. He went straight to the bus station and came to my place. Oh, he called first.
VIKAS MOGIL:	And what did he say?
REBECCA:	It was just gibberish, like Mum and Dad have chosen to side with Uncle Tim and that he can't stay with them anymore. He said Sydney was bad for him and he needed a change. So, I said he could stay with me for a while. I just thought he was on drugs and that once he sobered up, he'd be OK. I called Mum, and she told me what happened with Uncle Tim.

VIKAS MOGIL:	Do you have any idea of what was happening for Peter in the lead-up to hitting your uncle?
REBECCA:	Well, when he was living with Mum and Dad, I don't think he was working. I think he stayed at home, mostly. But he started saying odd things about Uncle Tim. He got real paranoid about him. And then he was just talking about the Illuminati again.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Mm. So how was Peter when he got to your place?
REBECCA:	Oh, he was a bit worked up about Uncle Tim and Mum and Dad. But then he was just like, it's their loss.
VIKAS MOGIL:	What do you mean?
REBECCA:	Well, he just stopped talking about it. Then he got a job with his old boss at a cafe. And I think he went out with some work friends a few times. He settled in with me OK. Steve stays over a lot. We practically live together. He's a great guy, very supportive. And he knows about Peter's troubles. He even offered to take Peter to football, but Peter wouldn't go. Then he got all weird, especially around Steve.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Can you please tell me more about that?
REBECCA:	Well, he kind of went quiet. I mean, he spoke to me, but not much. He was working in the mornings as a kitchen hand, and I was on day shifts, so I don't know what he did after work. And when I came home, he'd either be in his room with the door shut or staring at the TV. And he wouldn't speak to me unless I went over to him and made conversation.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Was he drinking alcohol or using drugs?
REBECCA:	I don't think so. There's no booze in the house. And drugs? Well, I laid down the law. I said, no drugs in my house at any time. And he was OK with that. So, I don't think he's had any drugs.
VIKAS MOGIL:	What about the usual everyday things, like eating, sleeping, showering?
REBECCA:	Well, now that I think of it, he hasn't been eating meals with me. Sleeping, I don't really know. Maybe he wasn't sleeping. And I don't know if he was showering either, come to think of it. Maybe he was worse than I realised.
VIKAS MOGIL:	What else did you notice about his behaviour, generally?
REBECCA:	Well, when he did talk to me, he would mention the Illuminati and the missions they planned for him. Sometimes he would close his eyes and mutter things under his breath, like he was talking to himself. Then he kind of got focused on Steve.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Focused on Steve?

REBECCA:	Yeah. Well, late one evening I saw him glaring at Steve, following him around the room with his eyes. And the next day, he asked me if I was OK, if Steve hurt me. And I said, no, Steve's not like that. He never even raised his voice. Then out of the blue, he asked if Steve was a paedophile. I was like, no. Why would you even ask that? Peter just mumbled something I didn't catch and went to his own room. Then, about a week before I brought him to hospital, Peter started to confront Steve.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Confront him?
REBECCA:	Yeah. He'd glare at Steve and say things like; I'll find out what you did. Just wait until I have proof. And if you've actually done it, you'll pay. Shoot you in your sleep.
VIKAS MOGIL:	That does sound very intense. How did you respond?
REBECCA:	Well, I tried to talk to Peter, but he just kept saying weird stuff, like, your boyfriend's a pervert. You can't have a baby with him. And then he'd mumbled to himself and walk away. And he was pacing. He was always pacing, either around the house or in his room, pacing and muttering. So, Steve and I agreed he should keep his distance from him. Anyway, one day, when Peter was at work, I went into his room and found two kitchen knives, big ones, you know? I'd been looking for them.
VIKAS MOGIL:	And where were these kitchen knives?
REBECCA:	Just lying on his bed, half hidden in his sheets. They'd been missing for a couple of days.
VIKAS MOGIL:	What happened then?
REBECCA:	Oh, I freaked out. I called Steve, and we decided Peter needed serious help, so I took him to hospital when he got home.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Peter made reference to shooting Steve. Do you know if he has a gun or if he could get a gun?
REBECCA:	Oh, no way. He's never shot a gun. We don't have one.
VIKAS MOGIL:	What about other weapons, like a cricket bat, machete, sporting equipment, replica weapons, anything like that?
REBECCA:	No, nothing like that at home.
VIKAS MOGIL:	But just to recap, Peter was saying strange things about Steve, not talking much, maybe not eating much. Did you notice any other things that Peter was doing or saying that were odd?
REBECCA:	Oh, not that I can think of at the moment.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Any talk about you or Steve not being who you really are, or that you are impostors or clones?

REBECCA:	No, nothing like that.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Any suicidal statements or self-harm?
REBECCA:	No.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Did he believe he was getting messages from TV or radio or that someone was out to get him?
REBECCA:	Not that I know. He didn't talk about people being out to get him.
VIKAS MOGIL:	So, it sounds like he was hearing voices he believed were the members of the Illuminati. Do you know what type of things they were saying to him?
REBECCA:	Only what I said before, when Peter said a few times that his group told him Steve was a bad guy. But I didn't know how to interpret that at the time.
VIKAS MOGIL:	I see. Yes. OK. Well, just thinking of helping him when he's ready to leave the ward, what about his supports? Does he have people in his life who can help him when he gets out of hospital?
REBECCA:	Well, Mum and Dad are great. They forgive him and love him. But they don't want him to live with them anymore because they're getting older. But they phone him, though. And I love Peter. I'll always want him in my life. But this might sound unkind, he can't live with me anymore. He really freaked me out this time. And I'm not getting rid of Steve. We'll probably get married one day. Peter needs to find his own place. I'll visit him and see him.
VIKAS MOGIL:	We will need to keep that in mind. OK. Does he have any friends who are more supportive?
REBECCA:	I don't think he really has any friends that close. I don't know his boss, but when I called and told him he was in hospital, his boss said they'd send a card to the hospital and to give him a call when Peter gets out. So, I thought that was pretty nice.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Yes. And what about Peter's friends? What things does he enjoy?
REBECCA:	I don't really know what he likes. When he was younger, he played a lot of video games. And he used to read. He's always been able to find work. He seems to have a good work ethic and. He's good to his family when he's not unwell. He's just a regular, nice guy when his mental health is good.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Rebecca, thank you very much for your input. I'll give you the name and number of his principal service provider. I will recommend that the team has a meeting with yourself and maybe your parents, so they can talk to you about Peter's symptoms, treatment, and a plan for ongoing management. How does that sound? Anything else?
REBECCA:	No, that's it. Thanks for ringing.

VIKAS MOGIL:	Not a problem. So, from here, I'll write a risk assessment report and a management plan and discuss it with Peter's treating team. The goal is to put plans in place to help Peter, with a special focus on reducing the chances of him hurting someone else, like he did with Tim. And it was very close with Steve. If you have any questions, please call the treating team.
REBECCA:	Yes, that's great. Thank you.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Thank you, Rebecca.
REBECCA:	Thank you. Bye.
VIKAS MOGIL:	Bye.
Time stamp: 00:13:20	