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# Quality practice elements for men's behaviour change programs (MBCPs) in the Northern Territory

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# About the quality practice elements

## How to read the QPEs

The quality practice elements are set out in the following pages according to:

- quality practice themes (9 themes)
- the quality practice elements relevant to each theme (60 elements)

For indicators describing what “good” looks like for each, refer to the ANROWS Quality practice elements for MBCPs in the NT document.

## The nine quality practice themes are:





# Program design, aims and objectives

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- 1 The MBCP has a clear statement expressing its fundamental aim and conceptualises and employs multiple strategies to work towards this aim.

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- 2 [First Nations element] The MBCP has been developed with local and regional communities and has processes in place through which it is accountable to community.

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- 3 [First Nations element] The MBCP has been intentionally designed to be culturally safe.



# Integrated governance and practice

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- 4 The MBCP's governance draws on collaborative interagency networks.

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- 5 The MBCP builds and strengthens collaborative relationships to support an integrated response to DFV.

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- 6 [First Nations element] The MBCP is guided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination.

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- 7 The MBCP is open to observers to promote transparency, accountability and continuous improvement.



# Risk assessment, analysis and management

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- 8 The MBCP provides timely and flexible responses to risk.

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- 9 The MBCP has a thorough understanding of, and practices aligned with, the NT Domestic and Family Violence Risk Assessment and Management Framework (RAMF).

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- 10 The MBCP incorporates evidence- and community-informed risk factors specific to DFV in First Nations and other community cohort contexts when assessing risk.

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- 11 The MBCP conducts comprehensive and ongoing risk, harm and needs assessments and analyses.

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- 12 The MBCP, where possible, engages in direct safety planning with the adult person using violence through individual contact.

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- 13 The MBCP has developed interlocking and robust indirect risk and harm management processes.

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- 14 The MBCP provider uses its powers as an Information Sharing Entity (ISE) to assess, manage and monitor risk and to keep the behavioural patterns of adult persons using violence in view.

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- 15 The MBCP prioritises risk and harm management responses to serious-risk adult persons using violence.

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- 16 The MBCP has processes in place to identify program- and systems-instigated risks of causing inadvertent negative harm, on a case-by-case basis.

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- 17 [First Nations element] The MBCP is cognisant of the complexities in relation to common risk assessment and management frameworks and approaches when working with First Nations communities.

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- 18 The MBCP has a sound approach to monitoring how the adult person using violence responds to the program.

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- 19 The MBCP has a sound approach to progress reporting and post-program completion reporting.



# Women's and children's safety support in the context of MBCPs

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- 20 There is close collaboration and trust between the women's and children's safety support workers and men's workers, and between MBCPs and specialist women's DFV service providers.

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- 21 Women's and children's safety support workers have a clear and deliberate understanding of the scope of their role.

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- 22 The women's and children's safety support service operates as an independent service in its own right.

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- 23 Women's and children's safety support is offered as early as possible.

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- 24 Women's and children's safety support is offered to all potentially eligible participants.

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- 25 The women's and children's safety support component is prioritised and sufficiently resourced.

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- 26 The MBCP, in collaboration with specialist women's, children's and family-focused services, attempts to assess the impact of the man's behaviour on child and family functioning and to support child victim and survivor needs.

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- 27 [First Nations element] Holistic and culturally safe and appropriate support is provided to First Nations women and children experiencing DFV.



# Theoretical models and curriculum development

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- 28 The MBCP puts into practice its theoretical foundations – in terms of the processes and elements of change the program is purported to be based on – with integrity.

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- 29 The MBCP uses dialogical processes that cater to a range of learning styles, not just psychoeducation.

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- 30 The MBCP uses trauma- and violence-informed practice (TVIP) in the context of MBCP work.

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- 31 [First Nations element] The MBCP is considered and deliberate in how and why it does, or does not, integrate healing work into its program when working with First Nations communities.

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- 32 [First Nations element] First Nations participants can locate cultural strengths, cultural pride and resistance to colonisation and its impacts in the MBCP curriculum and approach to behaviour change.

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- 33 The MBCP has sufficient capability, capacity and processes in place to assess and address intimate partner sexual violence (IPSV).

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- 34 The MBCP curriculum includes a focus on jealousy and provides men with strategies to make safe and respectful choices when experiencing jealousy.

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- 35 The MBCP explores the specific impacts of violence on children, and the safety and wellbeing of children is kept in view at all times.

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- 36 The MBCP works towards secondary and tertiary desistance goals.

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# Access and participation

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- 37 The MBCP has appropriate eligibility and suitability criteria and processes.

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- 38 The willingness and motivation of each adult person using violence to participate in the program is assessed on an ongoing basis beginning with initial assessment.

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- 39 The MBCP manages waitlists carefully.

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- 40 [First Nations element] The MBCP has strategies in place to increase the likelihood of participation from First Nations men.

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- 41 The MBCP considers current evidence and quality practice regarding the use of technology in MBCP work prior to introducing this into their program.

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# Tailoring MBCP work

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- 42 The MBCP works towards providing a safe response to men and their families from a range of community and cultural contexts.

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- 43 The MBCP tailors approaches to participants with cognitive disability or impairment.

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- 44 [First Nations element] The MBCP tailors the program for First Nations users of violence and their families.

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- 45 The MBCP tailors responses to each program participant based on the needs of adults and children who experience his violence.

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- 46 The MBCP tailors its response to men with complex needs and who present a serious risk.

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- 47 The MBCP demonstrates some attempts to address AOD use in the context of its work.

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- 48 The approach to all adult persons using violence engaging in the MBCP is influenced by case-planning processes.

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- 49 The MBCP has capacity to provide case management sessions for those adult users of DFV who need it.

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- 50 The MBCP has some capacity to offer individual sessions and other forms of individual contact to at least some program participants, beyond those provided during initial assessment and at program exit.

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- 51 The MBCP has an approach that considers transitions after the adult person using violence has completed the program towards other forms of support that might assist him to stay committed to a path towards nonviolence.

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# Building a high-quality team

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- 52 MBCP workers have adequate qualifications and foundational training.

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- 53 The MBCP has in place professional development plans for each worker.

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- 54 The MBCP is aware of and addresses the gender-dynamics of its team.

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- 55 The MBCP has a sufficiently developed supervision system in place.

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- 56 [First Nations element] The MBCP has an appropriate team for working with First Nations men, women and families.

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- 57 The MBCP is supported by its organisation.

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# Monitoring and program review

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- 58 The MBCP undertakes review activities to monitor program integrity and assist with continuous improvement of program quality.

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- 59 The MBCP undertakes or participates in program impact evaluation processes that measure medium-term outcomes.

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- 60 [First Nations element] The MBCP considers issues of Indigenous Data Sovereignty (IDS) when planning and undertaking evaluation activity.

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# ANROWS

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL RESEARCH  
ORGANISATION FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY  
*to Reduce Violence against Women & their Children*