

Repeat Victimization

Criminal Justice

Why a recent victim is the highest-risk person to protect next.

The best single predictor of victimisation is recent victimisation, and elevated risk is concentrated in the weeks that follow.

Recent victim + short window = elevated risk

Burgled last month

Highest in weeks after

Raised near-term risk

Neighbouring address

Same offender pattern

Near-repeat risk

Repeat abuse calls

Prioritise the case

Escalation risk

THE COMMON MISTAKE

✗ **Spread prevention evenly**

✓ **Target recent victims first**

Risk concentrates in a short window after an incident, so targeting recent victims reaches the highest-risk group at the right time.

Educational reference. Near-repeat patterns are best evidenced for burglary and vehicle crime; the timing window varies by offence.