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# DANGER ASSESSMENT

[www.dangerassessment.com](http://www.dangerassessment.com)

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Several risk factors have been associated with increased risk of homicides (murders) of women and men in violent relationships. We cannot predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to be aware of the danger of homicide in situations of abuse and for you to see how many of the risk factors apply to your situation.

Using the calendar, please mark the approximate dates during the past year when you were abused by your partner or ex partner. Write on that date how bad the incident was according to the following scale:

1. Slapping, pushing; no injuries and/or lasting pain
2. Punching, kicking; bruises, cuts, and/or continuing pain
3. "Beating up"; severe contusions, burns, broken bones
4. Threat to use weapon; head injury, internal injury, permanent injury
5. Use of weapon; wounds from weapon

(If **any** of the descriptions for the higher number apply, use the higher number.)

Mark **Yes** or **No** for each of the following. ("They" refers to your husband, partner, ex-husband, ex-partner, or whoever is currently physically hurting you.)

- \_\_\_ 1. Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year?
- \_\_\_ 2. Do they own a gun?
- \_\_\_ 3. Have you left them after living together during the past year?  
3a. (If have *never* lived with them, check here\_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 4. Are they unemployed?
- \_\_\_ 5. Have they ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon?  
(If yes, was the weapon a gun?\_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 6. Do they threaten to kill you?
- \_\_\_ 7. Have they avoided being arrested for domestic violence?
- \_\_\_ 8. Do you have a child that is not your partners?
- \_\_\_ 9. Have they ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
- \_\_\_ 10. Do they ever try to choke you?
- \_\_\_ 11. Do they use illegal drugs? By drugs, I mean "uppers" or amphetamines, "meth", speed, angel dust, cocaine, "crack", street drugs or mixtures.
- \_\_\_ 12. Are they an alcoholic or problem drinker?
- \_\_\_ 13. Do they control most or all of your daily activities? For instance: do they tell you who you can be friends with, when you can see your family, how much money you can use, or when you can take the car? (If they try, but you do not let them, check here: \_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 14. Are they violently and constantly jealous of you? (For instance, do they say "If I can't have you, no one can.")
- \_\_\_ 15. Have you ever been beaten by them while you were pregnant? (If you have never been pregnant by them, check here: \_\_\_)
- \_\_\_ 16. Have they ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
- \_\_\_ 17. Do they threaten to harm your children?
- \_\_\_ 18. Do you believe they are capable of killing you?
- \_\_\_ 19. Do they follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want them to?
- \_\_\_ 20. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
- \_\_\_ Total "Yes" Answers

**Thank you. Please talk to your nurse, advocate or counselor about what the Danger Assessment means in terms of your situation.**

# SCORING PROTOCOL

## SCORING GUIDELINES

Add total number of YES responses for questions 1-19	Score _____
Add 4 points for a YES to question 2	Score _____
Add 3 points for a YES to question 3 and 4	Score _____
Add 2 points for each YES for questions 5, 6 and 7	Score _____
Add 1 point to each YES for questions 8 and 9	Score _____
Subtract 3 points if 3a is checked	

TOTAL CLIENTS SCORE..... \_\_\_\_\_

## INTERPRETATIONS OF DANGER LEVELS

- **Less than 8 (Variable Danger) – Routine safety planning and monitoring. Inform victim that the level of risk can change quickly and to trust their instincts and to watch for additional signs of danger.**
- **8 to 13 (Increased Danger) – Safety planning and increased monitoring are important. Advise victim of increased risk and to watch for other signs of danger.**
- **14 to 17 (Severe Danger) Advise victim that danger is severe. Be assertive with safety planning; consult with judges, high level of supervision recommendations.**
- **18 or more (Extreme Danger) Advise victim of serious danger. Take assertive actions to protect victim – call for criminal justice or other professional help – recommend highest level sanctions for perpetrator such as highest level of probation supervision.**

## CLIENTS LEVEL OF DANGEROUSNESS

- Variable Danger
- Increased Danger
- Severe Danger
- Extreme Danger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Name of staff person administering protocol \_\_\_\_\_

Certified to administer protocol?  Yes  No

Client ID# \_\_\_\_\_