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# DANGER ASSESSMENT-5

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This brief risk assessment identifies women who are at high risk for homicide or severe injury by an intimate partner.<sup>1, 2</sup>

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

- 1. Has the physical violence increased in frequency or over the past year?
- 2. Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a weapon?
- 3. Do you believe he is capable of killing you?
- 4. Does he ever try to choke you?
- 5. Is he violently and constantly jealous of you?

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<sup>1</sup> This is a brief adaptation of the Danger Assessment (2003). It is designed for use by a health care provider or other clinician following a positive screen for intimate partner violence. The full Danger Assessment with weighted scoring provides the most accurate assessment of risk.

<sup>2</sup> Snider, C., Webster, D., O'Sullivan, C. S. and Campbell, J. (2009), Intimate Partner Violence: Development of a Brief Risk Assessment for the Emergency Department. *Academic Emergency Medicine*, 16: 1208–1216.

## Protocol suggestions for use of **DANGER ASSESSMENT-5**

- Use 5-item version in ED, protective order hearings, child custody etc.
- If 4 or 5 yes responses, policy is to report to police &/or to domestic violence advocacy program or national hotline (800-799-7233) – her choice – do it with her.
- If 3 of 5, do full Danger Assessment or refer to someone certified in administering DA and proceed based on results.
- If 2 of 5, tell her that she has 2 of 5 highly predictive risk factors for serious assault/homicide – highly recommend further immediate advocacy – call with her.
- If 0-1 of 5, proceed with normal referral/procedural processes for DV.