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## DANGER ASSESSMENT-5 (gender neutral)

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This brief risk assessment identifies patients 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 (or she)" refers to your husband (wife), partner, ex-husband (ex-girlfriend), 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 (or she) ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a weapon?
- 3. Do you believe he (or she) is capable of killing you?
- 4. Does he (or she) ever try to choke you?
- 5. Is he (or she) violently and constantly jealous of you?

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

2 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. Validated for female victims, male perpetrators – he only. Gender neutral version not validated for male victim, female perpetrator.

## 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, report to police &/or to domestic violence advocacy program or national hotline (800-799-7233) – whichever is the victim's choice – do it with the victim.
- 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 victim that she (or he) has 2 of 5 highly predictive risk factors for serious assault/homicide – highly recommend further immediate advocacy – call with the victim.
- If 0-1 of 5, proceed with normal referral/procedural processes for DV.