

Abuse Assessment Screen

Instructions: Circle Yes or No for each question

1. Have you ever been emotionally or physically abused by your partner or someone important to you? YES NO

2. Within the last year, have you been hit, slapped, kicked or otherwise physically hurt by someone? YES NO

If YES, who? (Circle all that apply)

Husband Ex-Husband Boyfriend Stranger Other Multiple

Total no. of times _____

3. Since you've been pregnant, have you been slapped, kicked or otherwise physically hurt by someone? YES NO

If YES, who? (Circle all that apply)

Husband Ex-Husband Boyfriend Stranger Other Multiple

Total no. of times _____

Mark the area of injury on the body map. Score each incident according to the following scale:

SCORE

1 = Threats of abuse including use of weapon _____

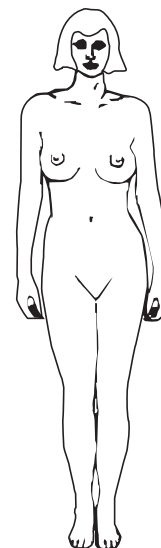
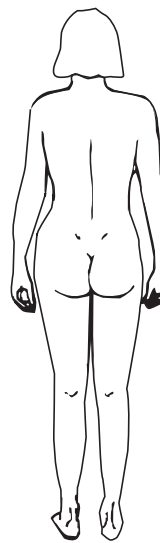
2 = Slapping, pushing; no injuries and/or lasting pain _____

3 = Punching, kicking, bruises, cuts, and/or continuing pain _____

4 = Beating up, severe contusions, burns, broken bones _____

5 = Head injury, internal injury, permanent injury _____

6 = Use of weapon; wound from weapon _____



4. Within the last year, has anyone forced you to have sexual activities? YES NO

If YES, who? (Circle all that apply)

Husband Ex-Husband Boyfriend Stranger Other Multiple

Total no. of times _____

5. Are you afraid of your partner or anyone you listed above? YES NO

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Administration method: Provide a private and confidential setting. Inform each woman that all women attending this clinic are being assessed for abuse. Read the Abuse Assessment Screen (AAS) question to the woman.

Scoring procedures: If any questions on the screen are answered affirmatively, the AAS is considered positive for abuse (Weiss, Ernst, Cham, & Nick, 2003).

Follow-up procedures: Document the abuse and respect the woman's response to the questions. If a woman reports physical abuse, give her a pencil and have her mark the areas of abuse on the body map (Soeken, McFarlane, Parker, & Lominack, 1998). At a minimum, all agencies should offer patients referral sources and legal options (Soeken et al. 1998).

Index Reference:

McFarlane J, Parker B, Soeken K, Bullock L. (1992). Assessing for abuse during pregnancy: Severity and frequency of injuries and associated entry into prenatal care. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 267, 3176-78.

Additional References:

Norton LB, Peipert JF, Zierler S, Lima B, Hume L. (1995). Battering in pregnancy: An assessment of two screening methods. *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 85, 321-25.

Soeken KL, McFarlane J, Parker B, Lominack MC. (1998). The Abuse Assessment Screen: A clinical instrument to measure frequency, severity, and perpetrator of abuse against women. In JC Campbell (Ed.), *Empowering survivors of abuse: Health care for battered women and their children* (pp. 195-203). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Weiss SJ, Ernst AA, Cham E, Nick TG. (2003). Development of a screen for ongoing intimate partner violence. *Violence and Victims*, 18, 131-41.