Danger Assessment Instrument

We can’t predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to have some idea of your level of danger.

Using a calendar, 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.

Mark yes or no for each of the following (refers to your partner or whoever is physically hurting you).

____ 1. Has the physical violence increased in frequency over the past year?
____ 2. Has the physical violence increased in severity over the past year and/or has a weapon or threat from a weapon ever been used?
____ 3. Does your partner ever try to choke you?
____ 4. Is there a gun in the house?
____ 5. Has your partner ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
____ 6. Does your partner use drugs?
____ 7. Does your partner threaten to kill you and/or do you believe your partner is capable of killing you?
____ 8. Is your partner drunk every day or almost every day? (In terms of quantity of alcohol).
____ 9. Does your partner control most or all of your daily activities? For instance: does your partner tell you who you can be friends with, how much money you can take with you shopping, or when you can take the car?
____ 10. Have you ever been beaten by your partner while you were pregnant?
____ 11. Is your partner violently and constantly jealous of you?
____ 12. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
____ 13. Has your partner ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
____ 14. Is your partner violent toward your children?
____ 15. Is your partner violent outside of the home?

Total “yes” answers _____

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

(Campbell, 1988; 2011—references to “he” adapted to “your partner” to ensure inclusion)