### Routine Screening Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct</th>
<th>Indirect</th>
<th>Framing</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use with heightened index of suspicion, and the presence of one or more increased risk indicators. Include regardless of how the issue of DV is initially raised.</td>
<td>In some clinical settings it may be more appropriate to begin inquiry with an indirect question before proceeding to more direct questions.</td>
<td>Effective to initiate conversation when it seems/feels awkward to suddenly introduce the subject of abuse/violence, particularly when there are no obvious indications.</td>
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### Sample Questions

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<td>Do you (or did you ever) feel controlled or isolated by your partner?</td>
<td>You seemed concerned about you partner. Can you tell me more about that? Does he ever behave in ways that frighten you?</td>
<td>We now know that domestic violence is a very common problem. More than 30% of women in this country will report being abused by their partners. Has this ever happened to you?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has your partner ever hit you or physically hurt you?</td>
<td>How are things going in your marriage? All couples argue, sometimes. Are you having fights? Do your fights ever become physical?</td>
<td>I don’t know if this is a problem for you, but some of the women I (we) see are dealing with abuse in their relationships. Some are too afraid or uncomfortable to bring it up themselves, so I (we) have started to ask about it routinely.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has he ever threatened you, someone close to you or made you feel afraid?</td>
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### How to Respond

- Ask kindly and non-judgmentally
- Be prepared for any response
- Prepare your response - verbal / non-verbal
- Listen
- Assist in safety planning
- Provide referrals
- Validate, validate, validate
- Keep a list with referral information handy
- Provide an opportunity to contact referral agency from your office/agency
- Consider using a Safety Assessment or Danger Assessment tool
- ASK and ASSIST in Safety Planning and promotion of Safety Behaviors
- Continue to Validate...
Excerpt from White Paper: Domestic Violence and the Role of the Healthcare Provider: The Value of Educating on Assessment and Intervention Strategies


Citation for table:


Additional direct screening question:

Are you now or have you ever been in a relationship when you were physically injured, threatened, or made to feel afraid?


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