

HEALTH, ATTITUDES TOWARD AGING, LIVING ARRANGEMENTS, AND FINANCES (HALF) ASSESSMENT

Purpose: A clinician-based tool to identify elders at risk in a health service setting.

Instructions: Questions are answered by the interviewer following a meeting with both the caretaker and older adult. Items are categorized on a three-point Lickert scale.

HEALTH	Almost Always	Some of the Time	Never
1. Aged Adult Risk Dynamics			
1.1 Poor health			
1.2 Overly dependent on adult child			
1.3 Was extremely dependent on spouse who is now deceased			
1.4 Persists in advising, admonishing and directing the adult child on whom he/she is dependent			
2. Aged Adult Abuse Dynamics			
2.1 Has an unexplained or repeated injury			
2.2 Shows evidence of dehydration and/or malnutrition without obvious cause			
2.3 Has been given inappropriate food, drink, and/or drugs			
2.4 Shows evidence of overall poor care			
2.5 Is notably passive and withdrawn			
2.6 Has muscle contractures due to being restricted			
3. Adult Child/Caregiver Risk Dynamics			
3.1 Was abused or battered as a child			
3.2 Poor self-image			
3.3 Limited capacity to express own needs			
3.4 Alcohol or drug abuser			
3.5 Psychologically unprepared to meet dependency needs of Parent			
3.6 Denies parent's illness			
4. Adult Child/Caregiver Abuse Dynamics			
4.1 Shows evidence of loss of control, or fear of losing control			
4.2 Presents contradictory history			
4.3 Projects cause of injury onto third party			
4.4 Has delayed unduly in bringing the aged person in for care, shows detachment			
4.5 Overreacts or underreacts to the seriousness of the situation			
4.6 Complains continuously about irrelevant problems unrelated to injury			
4.7 Refuses consent for further diagnostic studies			

HEALTH	Almost Always	Some of the Time	Never
5. Attitude Toward Aging			
5.1 Aged adult views self negatively due to aging process			
5.2 Adult child views aged adult negatively due to aging process			
5.3 Negative attitude toward aging			
5.4 Adult child has unrealistic expectations of self or the aged Adult			
6. Living Arrangements			
6.1 Aged adult insists on maintaining old patterns of independent functioning that interfere with the child's needs or endanger aged adult			
6.2 Intrusive, allows adult child no privacy			
6.3 Adult child is socially isolated			
6.4 Has no one to provide relief when uptight with the aged Person			
6.5 Aged adult is socially isolated			
6.6 Has no one to provide relief when uptight with adult child			
7. Finances			
7.1 Aged adult uses gift money to control others, particularly adult children			
7.2 Refuses to apply for financial aid			
7.3 Savings have been exhausted			
7.4 Adult child financially unprepared to meet dependency needs of aged adult			

Reprinted from *Geriatric Nursing*, 4(5), Ferguson, D., & Beck, C. H.A.L.F.-A tool to assess elder abuse within the family, 301-304, 1983 with permission from Elsevier.