

PRACTICE TOOL 6: SCREENING FOR DFV

This tool should be used in conjunction with Practice Guide 1 – Screening for DFV.



Starting the conversation

The following are examples to help you start the conversation leading to screening for DFV.

- Many people/women have problems with their family, their husband or partner or someone they live with, so we ask questions about the safety of all our clients so that we can work out what kind of help you need to keep you (and your children) safe; or
- I am worried because [list the DFV indicators that are present]. I would like to ask you some questions about how you feel about your safety so that we can work out what kind of help you need to keep you safe; or
- Sometimes people can hurt other people. Can I ask you some questions about this?



Screening questions

The following questions are examples to help you screen for DFV. They are part of a conversation and are not intended to be asked one by one in a survey style.

- Has your partner/husband, ex-partner/husband or someone in your family hurt you or threatened to hurt you; yelled at you, talked down to you or called you bad names?
- Has your partner/husband, ex-partner/husband or someone in your family become jealous and tried to control what you can or cannot do?
- Are you worried about the safety of your children or someone else in your family or household?



Responding to a disclosure

The following are examples to help you acknowledge a disclosure of DFV after screening.

- I am sorry that that has happened to you.
- It is not your fault that this is happening.
- I will do what I can to support you.
- You have the right to feel and to be safe and I'm working with you and the people that I know to try to keep you safe.