

# Beacon Program - **How to Screen for Abuse**

## Ask

a) For Adults

In a CONFIDENTIAL setting ask screening questions:

*“Because so many people deal with fear and abuse in their relationships, we ask these same questions of all our patients:”*

- **Is abuse, violence, or sexual assault a problem for you in any way?**
- **Does your partner/caregiver(s) threaten or try to control you?**
- **Have you been influenced to sign documents you don’t understand or have not read?**

a) For Children

Health care providers assess:

- **Do you (the provider) have any concerns about suspected abuse or neglect?**

Document possible outcomes in EPIC

1. Patient answers **YES** to question OR **CLINICIAN CONCERNED** in cases of child neglect/abuse

3. Patient answers **NO** to the question OR **CLINICIAN NOT CONCERNED** in cases of child neglect/abuse

2. Patient **DENIES** abuse, but **CLINICIAN CONCERNED** (reasons for concern will vary)

## Acknowledge

Let the Patient know you hear them and want to be supportive:

- I’m very sorry this is happening to you.
- I’m glad you were able to tell me.
- You do not deserve this.
- It’s not your fault.

4. Clinician is **UNABLE to ASSESS** (to ask the questions) for a variety of reasons. Some reasons might include:

- Not able to see Patient in a private confidential setting
- Patient unconscious or physically unable to respond
- Patient lacking capacity

## Refer

- Contact the Beacon Program 24/7 at 984-974-0470
- Contact in-house resources including Case Managers and Social Workers
- Compass Center: Domestic Violence Agency: 919-968-4610
- Child Protective Services of Orange County: 919-245-2818
- Adult Protective Services of Orange County: 919-245-2800

Re-Assess  
at Next Contact