

CASE

CAREGIVER ABUSE SCREEN



NICE

National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly

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CASE

WHAT IS CASE?

The Caregiver Abuse Screen (CASE) is a screening measure for detecting abuse of seniors. It is intended for use with all clients who are caregivers of seniors, whether or not abuse is suspected. The “Yes” responses on each of the eight CASE items may stimulate discussion that reveals abuse and/or neglect that might otherwise have gone undetected.

In addition to indicating current abuse by caregivers, caregiver responses to CASE may be indicative of tendencies and stresses that could lead to possible abuse in the future. In such cases, a proactive approach to intervention may help prevent the development of abuse.

Interpretation: After a caregiver completes the entire screen, the “Yes” responses are tallied; the more “Yes” responses, the more likely the presence of abuse. Each “Yes” response should also be probed for clinical information. To further assess the situation, the worker should ask the caregiver to explain his or her answer.

Drs. Myrna Reis and Daphne Nahmiash developed the Project CARE screening tools (of which CASE is one) and the intervention model. These were developed in a local community-based health and social service agency (CLSC NDG/Montreal West) to identify suspected abuse victims and to establish preliminary protocols and intervention techniques.

CASE

Please answer the following questions as a helper or caregiver:

- 1 Do you sometimes have trouble making _____ control his/her temper or aggression? Yes No
- 2 Do you often feel you are being forced to act out of character or do things you feel badly about? Yes No
- 3 Do you find it difficult to manage _____'s behaviour? Yes No
- 4 Do you sometimes feel that you are forced to be rough with _____? Yes No
- 5 Do you sometimes feel that you can't do what is really necessary or what should be done for _____? Yes No
- 6 Do you often feel you have to reject or ignore _____? Yes No
- 7 Do you often feel so tired and exhausted that you cannot meet _____'s needs? Yes No
- 8 Do you often feel you have to yell at _____? Yes No

Extracted from Myrna Reis and Daphne Nahmiash, *When Seniors Are Abused* (Toronto: Captus Press, 1995, pp. 15-26).
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This is one in a series of tools for detecting, intervening and/or preventing abuse of seniors. For more information about this, any of the other NICE tools or related training events, please visit www.nicenet.ca

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