

## ELDER ABUSE SUSPICION INDEX © (EASI)

### EASI Questions

**Q.1-Q.5 asked of patient; Q.6 answered by doctor**

**Within the last 12 months:**

1) Have you relied on people for any of the following: bathing, dressing, shopping, banking, or meals?	YES	NO	Did not answer
2) Has anyone prevented you from getting food, clothes, medication, glasses, hearing aides or medical care, or from being with people you wanted to be with?	YES	NO	Did not answer
3) Have you been upset because someone talked to you in a way that made you feel shamed or threatened?	YES	NO	Did not answer
4) Has anyone tried to force you to sign papers or to use your money against your will?	YES	NO	Did not answer
5) Has anyone made you afraid, touched you in ways that you did not want, or hurt you physically?	YES	NO	Did not answer
6) Doctor: Elder abuse <u>may</u> be associated with findings such as: poor eye contact, withdrawn nature, malnourishment, hygiene issues, cuts, bruises, inappropriate clothing, or medication compliance issues. Did you notice any of these today or in the last 12 months?	YES	NO	Not sure

The EASI was developed\* to raise a doctor's suspicion about elder abuse to a level at which it might be reasonable to propose a referral for further evaluation by social services, adult protective services, or equivalents. While all six questions should be asked, a response of "yes" on one or more of questions 2-6 may establish concern. The EASI was validated\* for asking by family practitioners of cognitively intact seniors seen in ambulatory settings.

\*Yaffe MJ, Wolfson C, Lithwick M, Weiss D. Development and validation of a tool to improve physician identification of elder abuse: The Elder Abuse Suspicion Index (EASI) ©. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect* 2008; 20(3) 000-000. In Press. Haworth Press Inc: <http://www.HaworthPress.com>

© The Elder Abuse Suspicion Index (EASI) was granted copyright by the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (Industry Canada) February 21, 2006. (Registration # 1036459).

Posted with permission from Mark Yaffee, November 17, 2009.

Mark J. Yaffe, MD McGill University, Montreal, Canada [mark.yaffe@mcgill.ca](mailto:mark.yaffe@mcgill.ca)  
 Maxine Lithwick, MSW CSSS Cavendish, Montreal, Canada [maxine.lithwick.cvd@ssss.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:maxine.lithwick.cvd@ssss.gouv.qc.ca)  
 Christina Wolfson, PhD McGill University, Montreal, Canada [christina.wolfson@mcgill.ca](mailto:christina.wolfson@mcgill.ca)

Ms. Lefthand brings her mother, Ellen, to the clinic today for a scheduled visit. Ellen, age 83, has mild cognitive impairment, hypertension, uncontrolled diabetes, urinary incontinence, and morbid obesity. Margaret requires assistance with bathing and toileting. Ms. Lefthand has been caring for her mother for the past 18 months without any family assistance.

Which of the following comments is a concern for possible elder abuse? (select all that apply)

- a. "I plan to keep mom with me as long as I can meet her needs."
- b. "I'm now caring for my grandbaby so that my daughter can work night shift."
- c. "I've depleted my savings and am concerned about paying our monthly bills."
- d. "What can I do to get her diabetes under control?"