



MATERNAL WELLNESS ASSESSMENT

Your Name: _____ DOB: _____

Baby's DOB: _____

I would like to talk to a healthcare provider about the stress I have been experiencing since giving birth. I am exhausted, overwhelmed and struggling. This is the best way for me to accurately describe what my needs are so I can receive the best help possible. I believe I might have (check all that apply):

- Postpartum Depression (PPD)
- Postpartum Psychosis
- Bipolar Disorder/Mania
- Postpartum Anxiety or OCD
- Postpartum PTSD (post-traumatic stress)
- Not sure; I know something isn't right

**I have identified some of the symptoms that I am experiencing regarding perinatal mood and anxiety disorders that I have been having:
(check all that apply)**

- I can't sleep, even when my baby is sleeping.
- My thoughts are racing. It is difficult to sit still.
- I don't have an appetite.
- I feel sad. I have been crying a lot for no reason.
- I am having anger/rage which is not normal for me.
- I am afraid to be alone with my baby.
- I don't feel like I am a good mother
- I have had thoughts to harm my baby or someone else.
- I feel overwhelmed with a lot in my life.
- I am concerned or paranoid that others might hurt me.
- I want to be alone all or most of the time.
- I think I am hearing or seeing things that others don't.
- I struggle with guilt and shame often.
- I am unable to concentrate or stay focused.
- I don't feel connected to my baby.
- I feel like I am losing it.
- I feel disconnected from life and no longer enjoy things.
- I think my baby/loved ones would be better off without me.
- I am having "what if" thoughts often about harm coming to myself, my baby or others (known as intrusive thoughts which are a sign of postpartum OCD).
- It seems like the only way to make myself feel better is by using alcohol, prescription drugs or other substances.
- I'm experiencing physical symptoms that are not normal for me (back pain, migraines, upset stomach, shortness of breath, panic attacks, etc.).

I have had these symptoms for more than _____ weeks. I am _____ weeks/months (circle one) postpartum.

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Here are some recognized risk factors for maternal mental illness that may help you understand my situation (check all that apply to you):

- I have a history of depression, anxiety/OCD or PPD.
- I have a history of bipolar disorder or psychosis.
- My family has a history of mental illness.
- I am a single mother.
- I am away from my home country or culture.
- I have a history of thyroid problems, diabetes, or pre-menstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD).
- I have had a stressful event in the last year (for example: relocation, job loss, divorce, relationship problems, and/or death of a loved one).
- I or my baby had problems during pregnancy or childbirth (i.e. baby in NICU, unplanned C-section, bed rest).
- I have a history of or am now experiencing trauma (i.e. domestic violence, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, poverty, loss of a parent).
- I don't have much support at home from my partner or family members.
- I delivered multiples.
- I have had infertility treatment.
- I have a lot of financial stress.
- My baby has colic, reflux, or other health problems.
- I have had a previous miscarriage or stillbirth.

Our checklist is not a tool to diagnose mental illness or disorders. It serves as a conversation starter for mothers to use with their healthcare providers. It was created by a Licensed Social Worker with the intent to support mothers during their 4th trimester and beyond.

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