American Academy of Nursing Designates Jacquelyn Campbell as Edge Runner for Danger Assessment: An Instrument to Help Abused Women Assess Their Risk of Homicide

Nurse-Designed Instrument Helps Assess Abused Woman’s Risk of Homicide and Obtain Appropriate Health Care and Domestic Violence Safety Planning Measures

Washington, DC (July 12, 2018) – The American Academy of Nursing today recognizes Jacquelyn Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN as an Academy Edge Runner for her program, Danger Assessment: An Instrument to Help Abused Women Assess Their Risk of Homicide (Danger Assessment or DA). Academy Edge Runners are nurses who have designed innovative models of care or interventions which improve health, impact cost, and influence policy.

Domestic violence is a major cause of mortality for women in the United States. When women are murdered, they are most often (40-54%) killed by a husband, boyfriend, ex-boyfriend, or partner. For every one woman killed by her partner or ex-partner, approximately 8-9 are nearly killed by their partner or ex-partner resulting in serious long-term health consequences.

Dr. Campbell’s Danger Assessment assists abused women, health providers, domestic violence advocates, and law enforcement officers to more accurately assess the risk of homicide from an abuser and to offer safety planning measures according to the risk of homicide. The DA is based on research and developed in collaboration with abused women. The abused woman’s responses to the Danger Assessment are scored by an advocate or health care professional resulting in one of four levels of danger: Variable, Increased, Severe, and Extreme. Included in the DA is a calendar which aids in recall, identifies old injuries contributing to chronic pain, notes increasing severity and/or frequency of abuse, and serves as an evidentiary tool in court proceedings. The DA’s innovative calendar system helps to aid recall and protect against the normal minimization process, as well as serving as a useful evidentiary tool in court proceedings.

“Dr. Campbell’s Danger Assessment is an intervention which helps save women’s lives,” said American Academy of Nursing President Karen Cox. “By more accurately assessing a woman’s risk of homicide at the hands of her abuser, the Danger Assessment enables health care professionals, domestic violence advocates, and police officers to assist the woman in obtaining timely and appropriate health care and safety planning measures necessary to prevent further risk and abuse.”

The DA was also the first instrument to ask about choking/strangulation in acts of domestic violence and has since been used by the National Strangulation Institute to train medical providers and forensic nurses on the importance of identifying and documenting nonfatal strangulation and its associated risk of stroke.

“I am honored to be designated an Academy Edge Runner and appreciate the opportunity to focus attention on the serious dangers domestic violence poses to women in this country and around the globe,” stated Dr. Campbell, the Anna D. Wolf Chair and professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.

An Edge Runner profile of this program is available here.

# # #
The American Academy of Nursing (www.AANnet.org) serves the public and the nursing profession by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge. The Academy’s more than 2,500 fellows are nursing’s most accomplished leaders in education, management, practice, and research. They have been recognized for their extraordinary contributions to nursing and healthcare.

CONTACT:
Barry Eisenberg
202-777-1174
Barry_Eisenberg@aannet.org