Caregiver Self-Assessment Questionnaire

How are you?

Caregivers are often so concerned with caring for their relative’s needs that they lose sight of their own wellbeing. Please take just a moment to answer the following questions. Once you have answered the questions, turn the page to do a self-evaluation.

**During the past week or so, I have...**

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<tr>
<td>1. Had trouble keeping my mind on what I was doing</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>2. Felt that I couldn't leave my relative alone</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>3. Had difficulty making decisions</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>4. Felt completely overwhelmed</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>5. Felt useful and needed</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>6. Felt lonely</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>7. Been upset that my relative has changed so much from his/her former self</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>8. Felt a loss of privacy and/or personal time</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>9. Been edgy or irritable</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>10. Had sleep disturbed because of caring for my relative</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>11. Had a crying spell(s)</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>12. Felt strained between work and family responsibilities</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>13. Had back pain</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>14. Felt ill (<em>headaches, stomach problems or common cold</em>)</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>15. Been satisfied with the support my family has given me</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>16. Found my relative's living situation to be inconvenient or a barrier to care</td>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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<td>17. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being “not stressful” to 10 being “extremely stressful,” please rate your current level of stress.</td>
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<td>18. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being “very healthy” to 10 being “very ill,” please rate your current health compared to what it was this time last year.</td>
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**Comments:**

*Please feel free to comment or provide feedback*  

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For additional tools for caregiving or aging, visit [www.CaregiversLibrary.org](http://www.CaregiversLibrary.org)
Self-evaluation:

To Determine the Score:
1. Reverse score questions 5 and 15. (*For example, a “No” response should be counted as “Yes” and a “Yes” response should be counted as “No”)*
2. Total the number of “yes” responses.

To Interpret the Score:
Chances are that you are experiencing a high degree of distress:
- If you answered “Yes” to either or both Questions 4 and 11; or
- If your total “Yes” score = 10 or more; or
- If your score on Question 17 is 6 or higher; or
- If your score on Question 18 is 6 or higher.

Next steps:
- Consider seeing a doctor for a check-up for yourself.
- Consider having some relief from caregiving. (Discuss with the doctor or a social worker the resources available in your community.)
- Consider joining a support group

Valuable Resources for Caregivers:

Eldercare Locator:
(a national directory of community services)
1-800-677-1116
www.aoa.gov/elderpage/locator.html

Family Caregiver Alliance
1-415-434-3388
www.caregiver.org

Medicaid Hotline
Baltimore, MD
1-800-638-6833

National Alliance for Caregiving
1-301-718-8444
www.caregiving.org

National Family Caregivers Association
1-800 896-3650
www.nfcacares.org

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities
1-800-695-0285
www.nichcy.org

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