

Evaluating the Dangers Worksheet

- **What is the danger? What are the risks?**
- **How certain are we that these dangers or possible risks will occur?**
- **Are we trying to create an unrealistic, “no danger zone” that is impossible to achieve?**
- **Are there options to help lessen or eliminate these dangers?**
- **Are we afraid of the actual risk or are we afraid of the legal liability of the risk?**
- **Are we projecting our fears on the person or are we looking at this situation through the person’s eyes?**
- **Is the person someone who usually takes risks in life, or is he/she a very cautious individual?**
- **Are these acceptable risks? Based on whose opinion?**
- **Would the person be willing to take the risk?**
- **Who should be involved in making this decision?**
- **Does the person in danger have enough mental capacity to participate in the decision? In implementing the solution?**
- **If the person could understand the choices that he/she is facing, what would the person say?**
- **What are the known burdens of the possible solutions? Emotional, physical, loss of control, loss of dignity, etc.?**
- **Are the benefits of being safer worth the risks and burdens of the solution?**
- **Can we improve the person’s quality of life in spite of these burdens?**
- **Can we try this decision for a trial period and see what happens?**
- **Can we try watchful waiting?**
- **Instead of acting out of fear, can we take some time to think of options that would minimize or eliminate these risks and/or burdens?**