

Lichtenberg Financial Decision Screening Scale (LFDSS)[©]

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Older Person Should be Able to Communicate

- Choice
- Understanding
- Appreciation
- Rationale

1. What is the financial decision you are making/have made? _____
 - Giving a gift / loan** (e.g., paying bills or tuition for grandchild, purchase of home for son to live in)
 - Major purchase or sale for self** (home, car, renovations, services, invest in LTC or NH)
 - Investment Planning** (retirement, insurance, portfolio balancing)
 - Estate planning** (Will, beneficiary, DPOA, add/remove someone from bank account)
 - Turn over bill paying to someone else**
 - Scam, Fraud, Theft** (suspected)
 - Other: _____
 - Don't know or inaccurate
2. Was this your idea or did someone suggest it or accompany you?
 - My idea
 - Someone else suggested/drove me here
 - Don't know/inaccurate
3. What is the purpose of your decision?
 - Benefit self (meet a need, peace of mind)
 - Benefit family (**whom?**)
 - Benefit friends (**whom?**)
 - Benefit organization/charity (**which?**)
 - Please or satisfy someone else (**whom?**)
 - Don't know/inaccurate
4. What is the primary financial goal?
 - Earn money** (or retain value of investment)
 - Reduce tax burden**
 - Reduce debt**
 - Affordability** of item(s) or service(s)
 - Share my wealth after my death**
 - Allow someone else to access my money or finances / accounts** (now)
 - Gift someone or a charity** (which?)
 - Lifestyle** (no \$\$ goal; meet a need/desire)
 - Other (describe) _____
 - Don't know/inaccurate
5. How will this decision impact you now & over time?
 - Improve financial position
 - No impact
 - Negative impact/debt
 - Don't know/inaccurate
6. How much risk to your financial well-being is involved?
 - Low risk or none
 - Moderate risk
 - High risk
 - Don't know/inaccurate
7. How may someone else be negatively affected?
 - No one will be negatively affected
 - Family members (**who and why?**)
 - Someone else (**who and why?**)
 - Charity (**which and why?**)
 - Don't know/inaccurate
8. Who benefits most from this financial decision?
 - I do
 - Family
 - Friend
 - Caregiver
 - Charity/organization
 - Don't know/inaccurate
9. Does this decision change previous planned gifts or requests to family, friends, or organizations?
 - No
 - Yes (**who and why?**)
 - Don't know/inaccurate
10. To what extent did you talk with anyone regarding this decision?
 - Not at all
 - Mentioned it (**to whom?**)
 - Discussed in depth (**with whom?**)
 - Don't know/inaccurate

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