Sex Trafficking for the Healthcare Professional

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Hope For Justice

Educational Objectives
At the conclusion of this program, participants should be able to:

- Describe the scope and general characteristics of sex trafficking in the U.S.
- Recognize the common indicators and high-risk factors for sex trafficking
- Initially assess whether a patient is a victim of sex trafficking

No Commercial or Conflict of Interest to Declare

Jeanette’s Story

United States- TVPA To be convicted of HT

One Exception: Minor <18 in commercial sex

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(Knowingly)
Human Trafficking

Sex Trafficking

Labor Trafficking

International Victims

Domestic Victims

Most Common

Sex Trafficking

Labor Trafficking

Sex Trafficking

Labor Trafficking

2012 ILO Report - Total 20.9 Million

Worldwide Scope of Trafficking

Male 45%

Female 55%

Minor 26%

Adult 74%

Sexual Exploitation 4,500,000

Labor Exploitation 14,200,000

State-imposed Forced Labor 2,200,000

Sexual exploitation 4,500,000

Labor exploitation 14,200,000

ILO (2012)
International Sex Trafficking within the U.S.

Number of foreign victims trafficked into the U.S.
- Exact number unknown
- Most estimates are in the thousands
- NHTRC reports 6,617 foreign national victims from 2007-2014

Location of Potential Trafficking Cases
National Human Trafficking Resource Center 2014 Report

International Sex Trafficking Venues:
- Strip/topless clubs
- Asian massage parlors
- Online escorts
- Latino brothels
- Major sporting events

USA: A Country of Destination for Victims of Trafficking
Domestic Trafficking

Trafficking of U.S. Citizens

Demographics of domestic sex trafficking in 2014

- Adult: 50%
- Minor: 35%
- Female: 95%
- Male: 4%
- Transgender: 1%

NHTRC (2014)

Recruitment- Romeo Pimp

- Stage 1-Initial Contact
  - Internet
  - Malls
- Stage 2- Seduction
- Stage 3- Increasing control
- Stage 4- Separation
- Stage 5- Trauma bonding

Recruitment methods

- Romantic/marriage proposal: 52%
- Posing as Benefactor: 10%
- Job offer: 10%
- Familial related: 10%
- Abduction/Kidnapping: 7%

NHTRC (2014)
**Control methods**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Control Method</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical abuse</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate partner related</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threat/intimidation</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic abuse</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Induced substance abuse</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal abuse</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withhold imp objects</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Familial related</td>
<td>10%</td>
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*Withheld important objects included, but were not limited to, identification documents, prescription medication and food.*

**Domestic Sex Trafficking Venues:**

- Street prostitution
- Strip/topless clubs
- Massage parlors
- Online escorts
- Truck stops
- Major sporting events

**Trafficking Venues**

<table>
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<th>Venue</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escort</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pornography</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strip club</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck stop</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal sexual services</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial front brothel</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar</td>
<td>1%</td>
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**Where are the girls/women sold?**

- **Internet**
  - Backpage
  - Craig’s List
  - Eros.com
  - Facebook
  - My Space
  - Messaging services

**Backpage - Indianapolis**

- Accurate Pics
- Petite Treat
- OUTCALL - 23 (Zion, castleton, Carmel, fishers)
So why is this such a HUGE problem?

Money!
Average girl will make between $500 to $1000 per day selling sex.

Role of Healthcare Professionals
Finding and Caring for victims of human trafficking.

International Sex Trafficking and Healthcare
- 50% of victims of international trafficking had visited a healthcare professional while in captivity.
- None were freed as a result of the encounter.

Domestic Sex Trafficking and Healthcare
- 87.8% of victims interviewed reported contact with healthcare system.

Where victims are seen for healthcare

Baldwin et al. 2011

How to Identify and Treat Victims of Trafficking

How might a victim present?

S: Stop
O: Observe
A: Ask
R: Respond

3 Categories of Indicators
- Indicators of control
- Strange Red Flags
- Physical Indicators
Indicators of Control

- Other person with them may claim or actually be their boyfriend, uncle, husband, brother, sister, mom or dad.
- Person controls conversation
  - Corrects the patient
  - Person does not allow the patient to answer questions
  - Person doesn’t want to leave

Indicators of Control

- Patient may exhibit body language displaying:
  - Fear
  - Anger
  - Anxiety
  - Submission
- Not in control of ID documents
- Not in control of money
- Avoids eye contact

Indicators of Control

- If alone, may exhibit the following:
  - Frequent texting
  - Phone calls during or after exam
  - Appear in a hurry or unwarranted anxiety

Suspicious Red Flags

- Clothing inconsistent with weather
- Large amount of cash
- Patient doesn’t know what city he/she is in
- Patient unable to give address
- Patient appears to be lying about age

Suspicious Red Flags

- Patient is a very poor historian
- History keeps changing
- All the pieces do not seem to fit together
- Do you get the feeling you’re not getting the whole story
- Late presentation

S: Stop
O: Observe- Examine the patient
A: Ask
R: Respond
Physical Indicators - International

- Psychological stress, PTSD, evidence of substance abuse
- GI Somatic complaints
- STIs including HIV/AIDS
- Sleep deprivation
- Malnutrition
- Tuberculosis
- Physical trauma such as burns
- Evidence of sexual trauma
- Atopic skin rash

Konstantopoulos et al. (2013)

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- Sleep deprivation
- Malnutrition
- Tuberculosis
- Physical trauma such as burns
- Evidence of sexual trauma
- Atopic skin rash
- Dental trauma
- Sleep deprivation
- Weight loss
- Physical trauma such as burns
- Evidence of sexual trauma
- Frequent need for pregnancy test
- Tattoos signifying “property of”

What do you do if you suspicions increase after the exam?

S: Stop
O: Observe
A: Ask
R: Respond

SOAR to Health and Wellness Training
HHS
Office of Women’s Health
Administration of Children & Families

Separate the Patient from the Potential Trafficker

If the patient is a victim of trafficking, they are probably highly traumatized, requiring:
- Trauma-informed staff to establish trust
- Staff to take whatever time possible

Preparations to Ask
Preparations to Ask

- Trauma-informed personnel to consider:
  - Hospital social worker
  - SANE/SAFE nurse
  - Specially trained trauma nurse
  - Provide translation as necessary

International Human Trafficking: Questions

- Can you leave your work or job situation if you want?
- When you are not working, can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been threatened with harm if you try to quit?
- Has anyone threatened your family?

International Human Trafficking: Questions

- What are your working or living conditions like?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?
- Is there a lock on your door or windows so you cannot get out?

Domestic Human Trafficking: Questions

- Where are you living now and with whom?
- Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend? How old?
- Are you sexually active? How many partners in the past 6 months?
- Is anyone pushing you to do something you don’t want to do?

Domestic Human Trafficking: Questions

- Have you been asked to have sex with multiple men each night?
- Do you have to meet a quota of money before you can safely return home?
- Has someone forced you to perform sexually before a camera?
- Has anyone taken sexually suggestive photo’s of you to post on the Internet?

What do you do if you discover someone who may be a victim of trafficking?
S: Stop
O: Observe
A: Ask
R: Respond

To respond properly, you need to prepare in advance

SOAR on Health and Wellness Training
HHS
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Hope For Justice is available to assist hospitals and clinics in their efforts to develop a response protocol

Elements of a response protocol
- Local trafficking indicators
- Separation procedures
- Interview procedures
- Forensic examination procedures
- Intervention procedures
- Reporting procedures
- Follow up procedures

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www.cmda.org/tip
References