When You See Patients, Do You See Trafficking Victims?

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Human Trafficking

- Human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar criminal industry.
- An estimated 24.9 million men, women and children are trafficked across the world. At least 100,000 children and teens are in the sex trade in the United States.
- Although trafficking rates are higher among female individuals, ANYONE can be the victim of trafficking regardless of gender, sexuality, age, race, class, etc.
Human Trafficking Myths and Facts

**MYTH**: Traffickers target victims they don’t know.

**FACT**: Many survivors have been trafficked by romantic partners, including spouses, and by family members, including parents. It is estimated that up to 60% of victims in urban areas and up to 80% of victims in rural areas are trafficked by their family.

**MYTH**: Human trafficking is always, or often, forced on the individual.

**FACT**: In reality, most traffickers use psychological means such as tricking, defrauding, manipulating or threatening victims into doing what they want them to do.

**MYTH**: Human trafficking victims are mostly females.

**FACT**: One study estimates as many as half of sex trafficking victims and survivors are male. Advocates believe that percentage may be even higher but that male victims are less likely to be identified. LGBTQ boys and young men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking.
Human Trafficking Myths and Facts

**MYTH:** Human trafficking involves moving, traveling or transporting a person across state and national borders.

**FACT:** While transporting victims can and does happen, the crime of human trafficking does not require any movement whatsoever. Victims can be recruited and trafficked in their own home towns, even in their own homes.

**MYTH:** People being trafficked are physically unable to leave their situations/locked in/held against their will.

**FACT:** That is sometimes the case. More often, however, people in trafficking situations stay for reasons that are more complicated. Some lack the basic necessities to physically get out—such as transportation or a safe place to live. Some are afraid for their safety. Some have been so effectively manipulated that they do not identify that they are under the control of another person.
Human Trafficking is a Health Issue.
Affecting individuals, families and communities. It effects YOUR community.

You can make a difference...
A tool is on the way to help you see potential human trafficking victims.
Recognizing Human Trafficking Flyer

This resource is to be utilized in the clinic areas for staff as a helpful reminder of what to look for.
10 **RED** Flags that Your Patient Could Be a Victim

- Oral history is scripted, memorized or mechanical.
- Avoids eye contact and social interactions.
- Appears fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive or paranoid.
- Accompanied by a controlling person.
- Unable to speak freely or share information.
- Tattoos or insignias indicative of ownership.
- Signs of physical abuse, sexual abuse or malnourishment.
- Appears to have few or no personal possessions.
- Sexually transmitted infection.
- Substance Use Disorder.
Unsure if what you see is worth reporting?

REPORT

**National Human Trafficking Hotline**
888-373-7888

**National Domestic Violence Hotline**
800-799-7233

If a child (under 18) is performing a commercial sex act then it’s automatically considered human trafficking-no show of force, fraud or coercion by another person is necessary-REPORT.
Human Trafficking is Everywhere—Even in Your Community

We can be an Advocate to Stop the Violence.
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