



This PowerPoint file is a supplement to the video presentation. Some of the educational content of this program is not available solely through the PowerPoint file. Participants should use all materials to enhance the value of this continuing education program.

Domestic Violence



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Overview

Identify the different types of domestic violence.

Describe who is affected by domestic violence.

Overview

Review the cycle of violence.

Identify reasons why victims continue relations with abuser.

List risk factors, lethality issues, and dynamics of abuse.

Overview

Recognize the signs and symptoms of domestic violence.

Discuss the healthcare implications and adverse effects.

Overview

Discuss appropriate documentation, mandatory reporting, and information sharing of suspected violence.

Summarize referral requirements.

Overview

Identify resources, victim services, and ways to help.

What are the Different Types of Domestic Violence?

What is Domestic Violence?

Definitions of domestic violence vary across time and settings

The National Institute of Justice notes intimate partner violence (IPV) is a more contemporary term:

What is Domestic Violence?

“Historically called "domestic violence," "intimate partner violence" describes physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former intimate partner or spouse.”

NIJ, 2007

What is Domestic Violence?

Definitions vary across time, setting.

Other related terms include family violence, child abuse, intimate partner abuse, and elder abuse.

Huecker et al., 2022

What is Domestic Violence?

Child abuse: involves the emotional, sexual, physical abuse, or neglect of a child under 18 by a parent, custodian, or caregiver that results in potential harm, harm, or a threat of harm.

Huecker et al., 2022

What is Domestic Violence?

Elder abuse: a failure to act or an intentional act by a caregiver that causes or creates a risk of harm to an elder.

Huecker et al., 2022

What is Domestic Violence?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2022) lists the following types of intimate partner violence (IPV):

What is Domestic Violence?

Physical violence: when a person hurts or tries to hurt a partner by hitting, kicking, or using another type of physical force.

What is Domestic Violence?

Sexual violence: forcing or attempting to force a partner to take part in a sex act, sexual touching, or a non-physical sexual event (e.g., sexting) when the partner does not or cannot consent.

What is Domestic Violence?

Stalking: a pattern of repeated, unwanted attention and contact by a partner that causes fear or concern for one's own safety or the safety of someone close to the victim.

What is Domestic Violence?

Psychological aggression: the use of verbal and non-verbal communication with the intent to harm a partner mentally or emotionally and/or to exert control over a partner.

Types of Violent Relationships

Johnson (2006) described different types of violent relationships.

Types of Violent Relationships

Situational couple violence: lower-level conflict within a relationship that may involve both parties and which escalates to violence, but does not include the use of control.

Types of Violent Relationships

Intimate terrorism: more severe physical and/or sexual violence, almost always directed toward a woman by a male partner in order to maintain power and control.

Types of Violent Relationships

This gender-specific pattern of deliberate, repeated physical and/or sexual assault within the context of coercive control has also been called “battering”.

Types of Violent Relationships

Control tactics used by abusive men include:

Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000

Control Tactics:

Threats
Verbal
Abuse
Forced isolation or imprisonment

Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000

Control Tactics:

Humiliation

Stalking

Monitoring of activities

Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000

Control Tactics:

Control of money

Denial of access to services or assistance

Tjaden & Thoennes, 2000

Types of Violent Relationships

Despite common gendered perspectives (e.g., abusive man vs. battered woman), bidirectional violence is most common type of abuse.

Hine et al., 2020

Types of Violent Relationships

Bidirectional violence: when both partners in a relationship exhibit violent behaviors, though the behaviors may not be equal for both partners.

Hine et al., 2020

Types of Violent Relationships

Several studies (e.g., Langhinrichsen-Rohling et al., 2012; Straus, 2008) suggest bidirectional as most common, followed by male perpetrator, followed by female perpetrator.

Hine et al., 2020

Child Abuse

Four types of child abuse and neglect:

Physical abuse

Sexual abuse

Emotional abuse

Neglect

CDC, 2021

IPV Can Start Early

When intimate partner violence (IPV) occurs in adolescence, it is called teen dating violence (TDV):

IPV Can Start Early

TDV affects millions of U.S. teens each year.

IPV Can Start Early

About 16 million women and 11 million men who reported experiencing contact sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime said that they first experienced these forms of violence before the age of 18.

Elder Abuse

Common types of elder abuse:

Physical abuse is when an elder experiences illness, pain, injury, functional impairment, distress or death as a result of the intentional use of physical force and includes acts such as hitting, kicking, pushing, slapping, and burning.

Elder Abuse

Common types of elder abuse:

Sexual abuse involves forced or unwanted sexual interaction of any kind with an older adult.

CDC, 2021

Elder Abuse

Common types of elder abuse:

This may include attempted or completed unwanted sexual contact or penetration or non-contact acts such as verbal sexual harassment.

CDC, 2021

Elder Abuse

Common types of elder abuse:

Emotional or Psychological Abuse refers to verbal or nonverbal behaviors that inflict anguish, mental pain, fear, or distress on an older adult. Examples include humiliation or disrespect, verbal and non-verbal threats, harassment, and geographic or interpersonal isolation.

CDC, 2021

Elder Abuse

Common types of elder abuse:

Neglect is the failure to meet an older adult's basic needs. These needs include food, water, shelter, clothing, hygiene, and essential medical care.

CDC, 2021

Elder Abuse

Common types of elder abuse:

Financial abuse is the illegal, unauthorized, or improper use of an elder's money, benefits, belongings, property, or assets for the benefit of someone other than the older adult.

CDC, 2021

Who is Affected by Domestic Violence?

How Big is the Problem?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2022) note IPV is common:

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

How Big is the Problem?

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC, 2022) notes IPV is common:

About 41% of women and 26% of men experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner and reported an intimate partner violence-related impact during their lifetime.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

How Big is the Problem?

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC, 2022) notes IPV is common:

Over 61 million women and 53 million men have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

How Big is the Problem?

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC, 2022) notes IPV is common:

About ~17% of pregnant women have been abused by a partner.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

How Big is the Problem?



(CDC, 2022)

Child Abuse



CDC, 2021

Child Abuse

~45 million children are exposed to violence during childhood.

~10% of children are exposed to domestic violence annually.

~25% are exposed to at least 1 event during their childhood.

Huecker et al., 2022

Child Abuse

90% are eyewitnesses of violence.

Witnesses of domestic violence are at increased risk of dating violence and have a more difficult time with partners and parenting.

Huecker et al., 2022

Child Abuse

~80-90% of domestic violence victims abuse or neglect their children.

Children exposed to domestic violence often become victims of violence.

Huecker et al., 2022

Child Abuse

Individuals 12-19 years of age report only about 33% of crimes against them, compared with 50% in older age groups.

Huecker et al., 2022

Elder Abuse

Elder abuse is common:

Abuse, including neglect and exploitation, is experienced by about 1 in 10 people aged 60 and older who live at home.

Elder Abuse

Elder abuse is common:

From 2002 to 2016, more than 643,000 older adults were treated in the emergency department for nonfatal assaults and over 19,000 homicides occurred.

Elder Abuse

Overall and firearm-specific older adult homicide rates increased between 2014 and 2017.

Of the 6,188 victims, 62% were male.

Elder Abuse

The perpetrator was an intimate partner in 39% of firearm homicides and 12% of non-firearm homicides.

Elder Abuse

Common contexts of firearm homicides were familial/intimate partner problems, robbery/burglary, argument, and illness-related (e.g. the homicide was perpetrated to end the suffering of an ill victim, both victim and perpetrator had an illness, or the perpetrator had a mental illness).

CDC, 2021

What is the
Cycle of Violence?

The Cycle of Violence

Cycle of Violence is a model developed to explain the complexity and co-existence of abuse with loving behaviors.

Relevant to IPV.

Heleniak & McLaughlin, 2020; Walker, 1979

<https://www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org/get-help/cycle-violence>

The Cycle of Violence

Breaking the cycle of violence is much more complicated than just “getting out” or leaving.

Heleniak & McLaughlin, 2020; Walker, 1979

<https://www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org/get-help/cycle-violence>

The Cycle of Violence

Three phases in the cycle of violence:

Tension-building phase

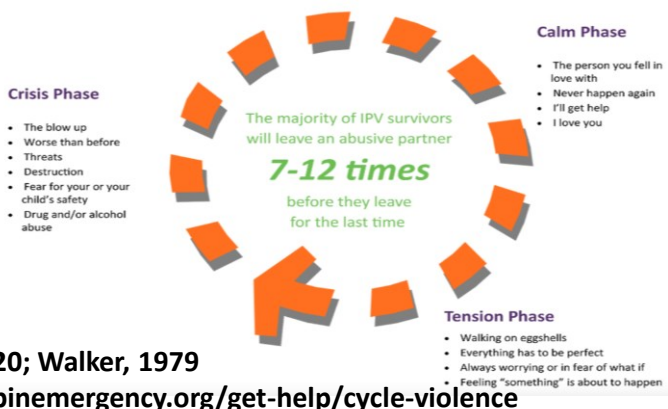
Acute or crisis phase

Calm or honeymoon phase

Heleniak & McLaughlin, 2020; Walker, 1979

<https://www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org/get-help/cycle-violence>

The Cycle of Violence



Heleniak & McLaughlin, 2020; Walker, 1979

<https://www.shelterforhelpinemergency.org/get-help/cycle-violence>

Calm Phase

Person fallen in love with

Never happen again

Will get help

“I love you”

Tension Phase

Walking on eggshells

Everything has to be perfect

Worry or fear of “What if”

Feeling that “something” is about to happen

Crisis Phase

The blow up

Worse than before

Threats

Destruction

Fear for self or child's safety

Drug/alcohol abuse

Why do Victims Continue Relations with Abuser?

Common Questions of IPV

“Why don’t they leave?” and “Why do they stay?” are two common questions in the public and among lay people.

Pereira et al., 2020

Common Questions of IPV

Outdated perspective: placing fault on the victim for not leaving.

Victims do not “enjoy” abuse, and many factors contribute.

Pereira et al., 2020

Contributing Factors to Staying with an Abuser

Many factors to staying with abuser:

Witnessing or experiencing abuse during childhood

Rigid adherence to traditional gender stereotypes

Desire to keep family together/not lose children

Pereira et al., 2020

Contributing Factors to Staying with an Abuser

Many factors to staying with abuser:

Lack of family and social support

Financial/emotional dependence on partner

Fear of being killed

Being married to the abuser

Pereira et al., 2020

Important Risk Factors, Lethality Issues, and Dynamics of Abuse

Risk Factors for IPV

Anyone can experience IPV. However, there are certain factors that increase IPV risk.

Risk Factors for IPV

Risk factors for being an IPV perpetrator:

Low self-esteem

Low education or income

Young age

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Risk factors for being an IPV perpetrator:

Aggressive and delinquent behavior as a youth

Heavy alcohol and drug use

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Risk factors for being an IPV perpetrator:

Depression and suicide attempts

Anger and hostility

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Risk factors for being an IPV perpetrator:

Traits associated with borderline personality disorder

History of being physically abusive

Having few friends and being isolated from other people

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Risk factors for being an IPV perpetrator:

Economic stress (e.g., unemployment)

Emotional dependence and insecurity

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Risk factors for being an IPV perpetrator:

Belief in strict gender roles (e.g., male dominance and aggression in relationships).

Desire for power and control in relationships.

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Risk factors for being an IPV perpetrator:

Hostility towards women

Attitudes accepting or justifying violence and aggression

History of physical or emotional abuse in childhood

Risk Factors for IPV

Relationship factors for IPV:

Relationship conflicts including jealousy, possessiveness, tension, divorce, or separations.

Risk Factors for IPV

Relationship factors for IPV:

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Relationship factors for IPV:

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Relationship factors for IPV:

Parents with less than high-school education.

Witnessing violence between parents as a child.

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Relationship factors for IPV:

History of experiencing poor parenting as a child.

History of experiencing physical discipline as a child.

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Community factors for IPV:

Communities with high rates of poverty and limited educational and economic opportunities

Communities with high unemployment rates

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Community factors for IPV:

Communities with high rates of violence and crime

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Community factors for IPV:

Communities where neighbors don't know or look out for each other and there is low community involvement among residents

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Community factors for IPV:

Communities with easy access to drugs and alcohol

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Community factors for IPV:

Weak community sanctions against IPV (for example, unwillingness of neighbors to intervene in situations where they witness violence)

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Societal factors for IPV:

Traditional gender norms and gender inequality (for example, the idea women should stay at home, not enter the workforce, and be submissive; men should support the family and make the decisions).

CDC, 2022

Risk Factors for IPV

Societal factors for IPV:

Cultural norms that support aggression towards others

Societal income inequality

Weak health, educational, economic, and social policies, and laws

CDC, 2022

COVID-19 and Domestic Violence

Incidents of domestic violence increased in response to stay-at-home orders and lockdowns:

This pattern was found across various cities, states, and countries around the world.

Piquero et al., 2021

COVID-19 and Domestic Violence

Incidents of domestic violence increased in response to stay-at-home orders and lockdowns:

Suggests additional resources needed for those that experience abuse in the home, especially during pandemics.

Piquero et al., 2021

Sexual Orientation

Data from a large sample (n >40,000) of participants from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey suggest:

Compared to heterosexual women, bisexual women and lesbians experience more contact sexual violence.

Chen et al., 2020

Sexual Orientation

Data from a large sample (n >40,000) of participants from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey suggest:

Bisexual women experience more IPV compared to heterosexual women.

Chen et al., 2020

Sexual Orientation

Data from a large sample (n >40,000) of participants from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey suggest:

Both bisexual and gay men experienced more sexual violence compared to heterosexual men.

Chen et al., 2020

Sexual Orientation

Data from a large sample (n >40,000) of participants from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey suggest:

Results reveal a significantly elevated burden of violence experienced by certain sexual minorities.

Chen et al., 2020

Elder Abuse

Some groups have higher rates of abuse than others. Compared with women, men had higher rates of both nonfatal assaults and homicides.

Elder Abuse

The rate for nonfatal assaults increased more than 75% among men (2002–2016) and more than 35% among women (2007–2016).

Elder Abuse

The estimated homicide rate for men increased 7% from 2010 to 2016. Compared to non-Hispanic Whites, non-Hispanic Black or African American persons, non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaskan Natives, and Hispanic or Latino persons have higher homicide rates (2002–2016).

What are the Consequences?

IPV is a significant public health issue that has many individual and societal costs:

About 75% of female IPV survivors and 48% of male IPV survivors experience some form of injury related to IPV.

CDC, 2022

What are the Consequences?

IPV is a significant public health issue that has many individual and societal costs:

Data from U.S. crime reports suggest that about 1 in 5 homicide victims are killed by an intimate partner.

CDC, 2022

What are the Consequences?

IPV is a significant public health issue that has many individual and societal costs:

Over half of female homicide victims in the United States are killed by a current or former male intimate partner.

CDC, 2022

Dynamics of Abuse



Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, 2017

What are the Signs and Symptoms of Domestic Violence?



Evaluation

It can be difficult to relate injuries to abuse

Important to first attend to injury that brought patient to treatment

Evaluation

Lab tests of injuries may include x-rays, magnetic resonance imaging

Nurses must be sensitive to patient's cultural beliefs and conduct culturally sensitive assessment

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

All females should be screened for DV.

Even if signs/symptoms of abuse are not present, all positive screens should be referred.

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

All healthcare organizations need a plan for screening, assessing, and referring patients for IPV.

Must include referral, documentation, and follow-up protocols.

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

Signs/symptoms of abuse should especially warrant further evaluation:

Bruises

Bites

Cuts

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

Signs/symptoms of abuse should especially warrant further evaluation:

Broken bones
Concussions

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

Signs/symptoms of abuse should especially warrant further evaluation:

Burns
Knife/gunshot wounds

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

Signs/symptoms of abuse should especially warrant further evaluation.

(DV injuries often include injuries to head, neck, chest. Accidental injuries involve extremities like arms, legs.)

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

Victims of abuse may have multiple injuries at different stages of healing.

Patient should be referred to law enforcement if DV injuries are apparent.

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

Victims of DV may not want a referral.

Many fear for their lives, well-being.

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation

Tension between leaving the abuser and losing support, being single parent.

Nurses should reassure decision is voluntary, and help will be provided regardless.

Huecker et al., 2022

Barriers to Screening for Domestic Violence

Challenges to address IPV:

Lack of training

Time constraints

Sensitive issues

Huecker et al., 2022

Barriers to Screening for Domestic Violence

Challenges to address IPV:

Lack of privacy

Hesitancy of patients to discuss abuse

Hesitancy of providers to ask about abuse

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation of Child Abuse

Detailed history, physical exam

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation of Child Abuse

May require consultation:

Ophthalmology for eye trauma

CT scan for head trauma in children <2 years of age

Hematology for bruises

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation of Child Abuse

May require consultation:

Urine screening for bladder/kidney trauma, toxicology

Liver/pancreas screening for abdomen injuries

CT scan for abdomen injuries

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation of Child Abuse

May require consultation:

Radiologist for bone fractures

Skeletal survey in children <2 years of age

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation of Elder Abuse

Detailed history, physical exam

May require consultation:

Evaluation of dehydration, infection, improper medication administration, malnutrition

Huecker et al., 2022

Evaluation of Elder Abuse

Detailed history, physical exam

May require consultation:

X-rays of bruised body parts

CT scans for potential intracranial bleeding

Pelvic examination if suspected sexual assault

Huecker et al., 2022

What are Healthcare Implications and Adverse Effects?

Healthcare Implications

Many other negative health outcomes are associated with IPV.

Includes a range of conditions affecting the heart, muscles and bones, and digestive, reproductive, and nervous systems, many of which are chronic.

Healthcare Implications

Survivors can experience mental health problems such as depression and PTSD symptoms.

Survivors are at higher risk for engaging in behaviors such as smoking, binge drinking, and sexually risky activity.

CDC, 2022

Child Abuse

Witnesses of domestic violence are at increased risk of dating violence and have a more difficult time with partners and parenting.

Huecker et al., 2022

Child Abuse

Children who witness domestic violence are at an increased risk for:

PTSD

Aggressive behavior

Anxiety

Huecker et al., 2022

Child Abuse

Children who witness domestic violence are at an increased risk for:

Impaired development

Difficulty interacting with peers

Huecker et al., 2022

Child Abuse

Children who witness domestic violence are at an increased risk for:

Academic problems

Higher rates of substance use disorders

Huecker et al., 2022

Pregnancy

About ~17% of pregnant women have been abused by a partner.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

Pregnancy

Women who experience intimate partner violence prior to and during pregnancy are at an increased risk for:

Low maternal weight gains

Infections

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

Pregnancy

Women who experience intimate partner violence prior to and during pregnancy are at an increased risk for:

High blood pressure

Pre-term births

Low-weight births

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

Pregnancy

Women who receive prenatal counseling for IPV have fewer recurrent episodes of IPV during and post pregnancy, and better birth outcomes

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2015

Other Adverse Effects

Although the personal consequences of IPV are devastating, there are also many costs to society

CDC, 2022

Other Adverse Effects

The lifetime economic cost associated with medical services for IPV-related injuries, lost productivity from paid work, criminal justice and other costs, is \$3.6 trillion.

The cost of IPV over a victim's lifetime was \$103,767 for women and \$23,414 for men.

CDC, 2022

Appropriate Documentation, Mandatory Reporting, and
Information Sharing of Suspected Violence

Domestic Violence and Nursing

Nurses are often first point of contact in healthcare services.

However, nurses may not be able to recognize or support patients with IPV.

Alshammari et al., 2018

Domestic Violence and Nursing

Nursing assessment is one of the most compelling elements of communication with patients regarding domestic violence.

Alshammari et al., 2018

Domestic Violence and Nursing

Virtually all healthcare professionals, including nurses, will evaluate or treat a patient who is a victim of domestic violence.

Klein et al., 2021; Sarkar et al., 2021

Domestic Violence and Nursing

Domestic and family violence can be hard to identify.

Many cases are not reported to health professionals or legal authorities.

Klein et al., 2021; Sarkar et al., 2021

Domestic Violence and Nursing

There are several suggestions for nurses and healthcare professionals:

Document all findings and recommendations in the medical record, including statements made denying abuse.

Huecker et al., 2022

Domestic Violence and Nursing

When DV is admitted, documentation should include:

History

Physical examination findings

Laboratory and radiographic finds

Huecker et al., 2022

Domestic Violence and Nursing

When DV is admitted, documentation should include:

Any interventions

Referrals made

Huecker et al., 2022

Appropriate Documentation

Medical record may be used as evidence.

Poor record keeping may free an abuser.

Huecker et al., 2022

Appropriate Documentation

Good charting should include:

Description of event using patient's own words

Patient's behavior

Health problems related to the abuse

Huecker et al., 2022

Appropriate Documentation

Good charting should include:

Details on the alleged perpetrator

Details on patient's injuries, including documentation

Huecker et al., 2022

Appropriate Documentation

Good charting should include:

Documentation of damaged clothing

Following protocols for physical examination for sexual assault

Huecker et al., 2022

Appropriate Evaluation

DV can result in legal action:

DV specialists should be involved with evidence collection

Written procedures necessary for labeling, maintaining specimens

Huecker et al., 2022

Appropriate Evaluation

DV can result in legal action:

Law enforcement should assist.

No potential evidence should be destroyed.

Huecker et al., 2022

Documenting DV

Lentz outlined 10 tips for documenting DV:

1: Objectively document any injuries suggesting domestic violence

(Take pictures if possible; if not use injury location chart or body map to fully document all injuries)

Lentz., 2011, *Nursing Critical Care*

Documenting DV

- 2: Use quotation marks to denote the patient's own words or use phrases such as patient states or patient reports to indicate information that came directly from the patient.
Exact repetition, not paraphrasing

Lentz., 2011, *Nursing Critical Care*

Documenting DV

- 3: Avoid legalese
Documentation should be factual and neutral; avoid phrases like alleges.

Lentz., 2011, *Nursing Critical Care*

Documenting DV

4: Identify the person who hurt the patient as stated by the patient, using quotation marks and recording the identifying information.

“my husband”, “my wife”

Lentz., 2011, *Nursing Critical Care*

Documenting DV

5: Don't write your personal conclusions about the situation, such as patient is a battered woman. (Document facts clearly and let others decide in the future.)

Lentz., 2011, *Nursing Critical Care*

Documenting DV

- 6: Don't put the term domestic violence or abbreviations such as "DV" in the diagnosis fields of a patient's medical records
(Courts decide if DV occurred, not you.)

Lentz., 2011, Nursing Critical Care

Documenting DV

- 7: Record your observations of the patient's general appearance or demeanor
(Patient crying, seems agitated)

Lentz., 2011, Nursing Critical Care

Documenting DV

- 8: Record the time of day the patient is examined
Document time between incident and arrival at hospital if possible.

Lentz., 2011, Nursing Critical Care

Documenting DV

- 9: Write legibly or use a computer to document the patient's medical information.

Unclear writing can be dismissed later.

Lentz., 2011, Nursing Critical Care

Documenting DV

10: Following facility policy and procedure, and state law, report any disclosure from your patient of child or elder abuse to local authorities.

Legal obligation: Know your state's reporting laws, and document whom you notified of the suspected abuse.

Lentz., 2011, Nursing Critical Care

What are
Referral Requirements of Domestic Violence?

Interventions

Once patient is stabilized and IPV suspected, various interventions could be considered:

Interventions

Provide a safe environment

Establish domestic violence as a dx

Reassure the patient they are not at fault

Interventions

Evaluate emotional status and treat/refer.

Determine risks and assess safety options for patient.

Explain to the patient that violence may escalate.

Interventions

Determine if legal intervention is needed.

Report abuse as MANDATED and REQUIRED.

Interventions

Develop a follow-up plan.

Facilitate shelter options, legal services, and counseling.

Assisting the Victim

Patient may refuse to go to a shelter.

40% of victims never contact police.

Assisting the Victim

44% of female homicide victims visited emergency department (ED) within 2 years of their murder.

Nurses can provide opportunity to help.

Assisting the Victim

Provide contact info for resources (e.g., hotlines).

Written materials may be a danger for the patient.

Assisting the Victim

Referral should be made to appropriate resource.

Help construct safety plan for patient.

Domestic Violence and Nursing

There are several suggestions for nurses and healthcare professionals:

Domestic Violence and Nursing

Reassurance that additional assistance is available at any time is critical to protect the patient from harm and break the cycle of abuse.

Huecker et al., 2022

Domestic Violence and Nursing

Involve the social worker early.

Do not discharge the patient until a safe environment has been established.

Huecker et al., 2022

What are Community Resources, Victim Services, and Other Ways to Help?

Preventing IPV

- Teach safe and healthy relationship skills**
 - Social-emotional learning programs for youth
 - Healthy relationship programs for couples
- Engage influential adults and peers**
 - Men and boys as allies in prevention
 - Bystander empowerment and education
 - Family-based programs
- Disrupt the developmental pathways toward partner violence**
 - Early childhood home visitation
 - Preschool enrichment with family engagement
 - Parenting skill and family relationship programs
 - Treatment for at-risk children, youth, and families
- Create protective environments**
 - Improve school climate and safety
 - Improve organizational policies and workplace climate
 - Modify the physical and social environments of neighborhoods
- Strengthen economic supports for families**
 - Strengthen household financial security
 - Strengthen work-family supports
- Support survivors to increase safety and lessen harms**
 - Victim-centered services
 - Housing programs
 - First responder and civil legal protections
 - Patient-centered approaches
 - Treatment and support for survivors of IPV, including teen dating violence

Protective Factors for IPV

Relationship factors - strong social support networks and stable, positive relationships with others.

CDC, 2022

Protective Factors for IPV

Community factors:

Neighborhood collective efficacy, meaning residents feel connected to each other and are involved in the community.

Coordination of resources and services among community agencies.

CDC, 2022

Protective Factors for IPV

Community factors:

Communities with access to safe, stable housing.

Communities with access to medical care and mental health services.

CDC, 2022

Protective Factors for IPV

Community factors:

Communities with access to economic and financial help.

CDC, 2022

Preventing IPV

5 strategies to prevent child abuse & neglect

- 1 Strengthen economic supports for families
- 2 Change social norms to support parents and positive parenting
- 3 Provide quality care and education early in life
- 4 Enhance parenting skills to promote healthy child development
- 5 Intervene to lessen harms and prevent future risk

CDC, 2021

Consequences of Elder Abuse

- 1 Listen to older adults and their caregivers to understand their challenges and provide support.
- 2 Report abuse or suspected abuse to local adult protective services, long-term care ombudsman, or the police. Use the National Center on Elder Abuse Listing of State Elder Abuse Hotlines (<https://ncea.acl.gov/Resources/State.aspx>) to find your state's reporting numbers, government agencies, state laws, and other resources.
- 3 Educate oneself and others about how to recognize and report elder abuse.
- 4 Learn how the signs of elder abuse differ from the normal aging process.
- 5 Check in on older adults who may have few friends and family members.
- 6 Provide over-burdened caregivers with support such as help from friends, family, or local relief care groups; adult day care programs; counseling; outlets intended to promote emotional well-being.
- 7 Encourage and assist persons (either caregivers or older adults) having problems with drug or alcohol abuse in getting help.

CDC, 2021

Domestic Violence: Summary

Unfortunately, many people are impacted by some form of domestic violence.

As a nurse you can play an important role in mitigating harms from domestic violence.

Domestic Violence: Summary

Always be aware of your local, state, and federal policies regarding documenting and reporting cases of domestic violence.

Domestic Violence: Resource

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv-technicalpackages.pdf>

CDC Resource, Preventing Intimate Partner Violence Across the Lifespan: A Technical Package of Programs, Policies, and Practices



Domestic Violence Andrew K. Littlefield, PhD

If you have any questions about the program you have just watched, you may contact us at:

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