

You Can Make a Difference: Discussing Domestic Violence

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence
Health Care Program

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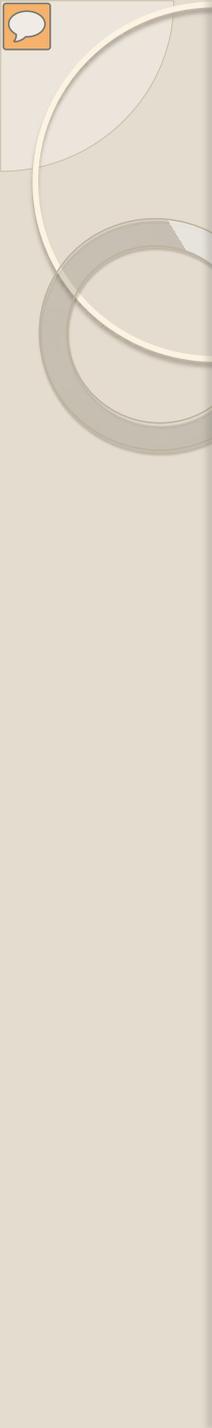
Agnes Pala Bukhala



Objectives of Webinar

As a result of this webinar, you will be better able to:

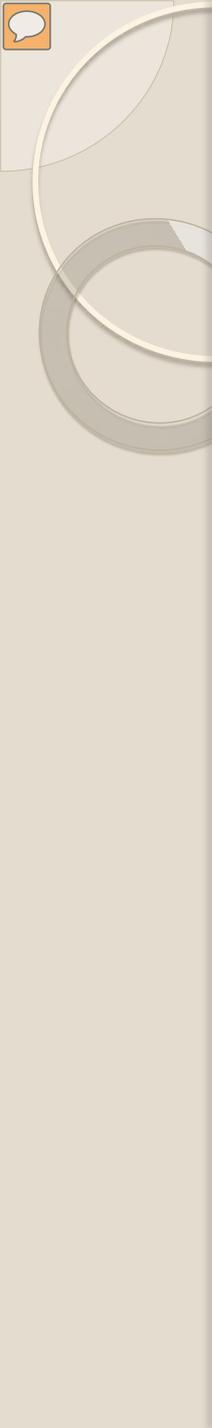
- 1) **RECOGNIZE** the intersection between health care and domestic violence;
- 2) **IDENTIFY** the impact of domestic violence on health care outcomes;
- 3) **APPLY** the information to the daily practice within your setting.



Polling Question

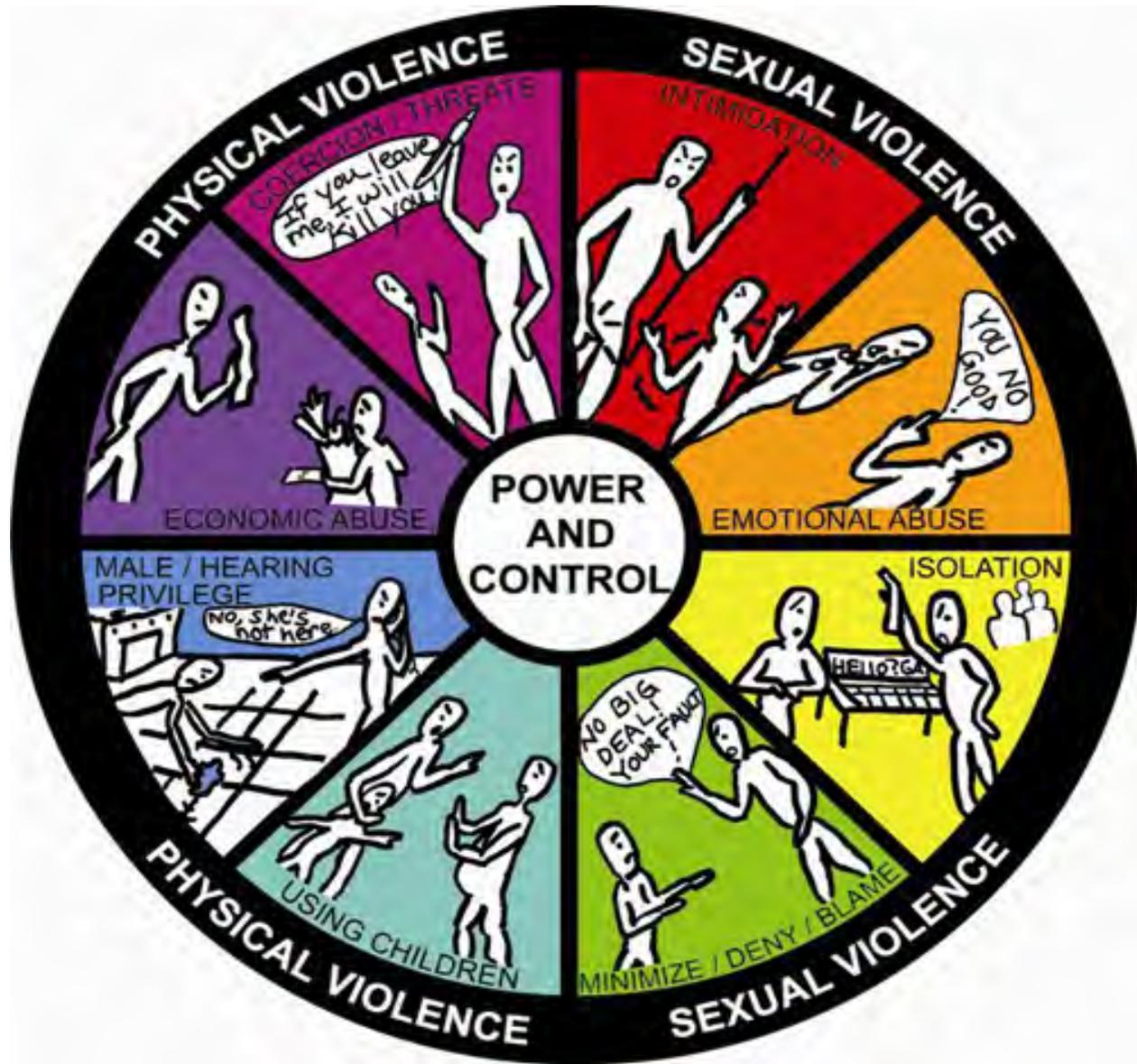
Have you received training on this topic or something similar before?

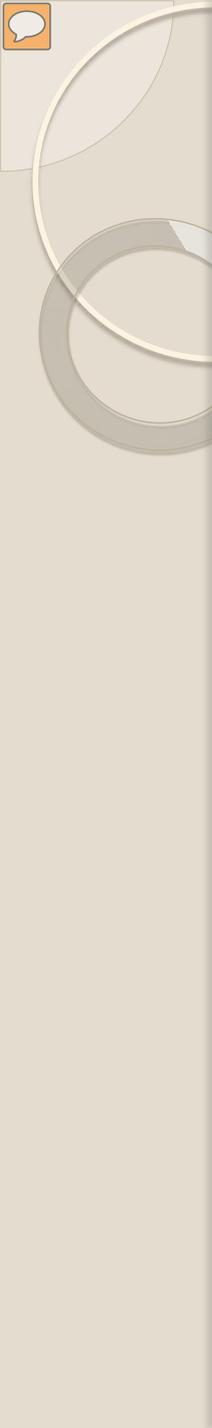
Yes or No.



Domestic Violence

- Pattern of coercive tactics
 - Physical abuse
 - Psychological and Emotional abuse
 - Sexual abuse
 - Economic abuse
 - Using children
 - Isolation, coercion and threats
 - Minimizing, denying and blaming
- Perpetrated against an intimate partner or family member
- Power and control





Polling Question

Each year, approximately _____

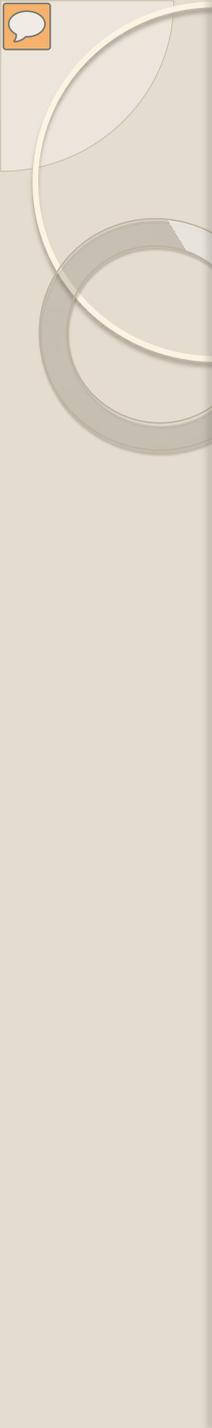
U.S. women report rape or physical assault
by an intimate partner.

- a) 500,000
- b) 1.5 million
- c) 250,000
- d) 10 million



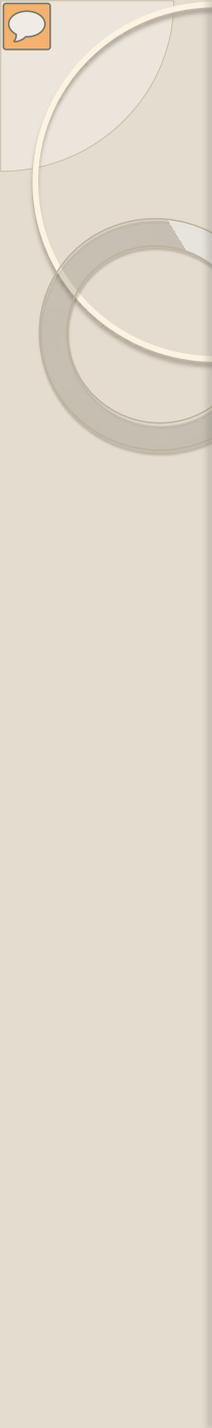
Polling Question 96% of pregnant women receive prenatal care. This provides an average of _____ prenatal care visits

- a) 9 visits
- b) 5 visits
- c) 12-13 visits
- d) 20 visits



Screening Recommendation

- The Institute of Medicine, Joint Commission, American Medical Association, World Health Organization, American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, American Academy of Pediatricians, American Nurses Association are among the health care groups that recommend that providers screen their women patients for violence.



Screening Recommendation

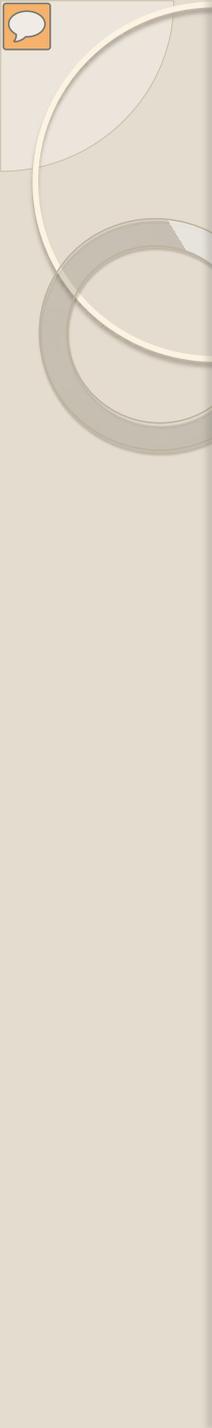
The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends that clinicians screen women of childbearing age for intimate partner violence, and provide or refer women who screen positive to intervention services.

This recommendation also applies to women who do not have signs or symptoms of abuse.



IOM Language

- Recommendation 5.7:
- Screening and counseling for interpersonal and domestic violence.
- Screening and counseling involve elicitation of information from women and adolescents about current and past violence and abuse in a culturally sensitive and supportive manner to address current health concerns about safety and other current or future health problems.



Polling Question

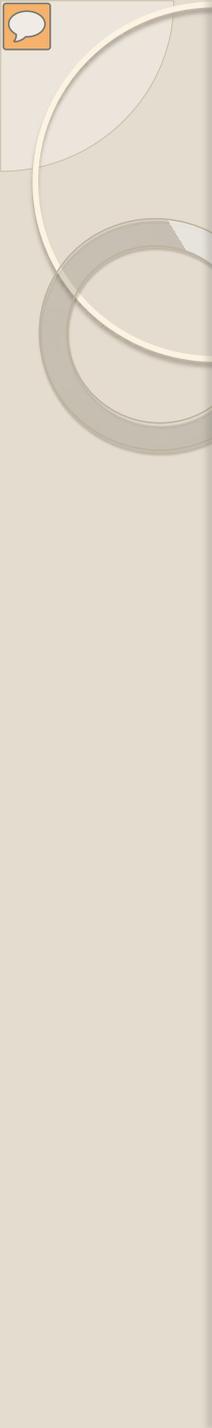
Why Aren't We Screening?

- a) Lack of time and training.
- b) Lack of knowledge of services available.
- c) Don't want to offend patients.
- d) Frustration due to expectation that victim should leave abusive home.



RADAR

- **R**outinely screen patients
- **A**sk direct questions
- **D**ocument your findings
- **A**ssess patient safety
- **R**eview options and referrals



Polling Question

Leaving an abusive relationship guarantees a life free of violence.

True or False.

Leaving Versus Staying





Role of the Health Care Provider

- Be open to identifying DV as a health issue for your patient.
- Invite patients to share safety concerns and needs.
- Provide confidential and appropriate supportive care.
- Make well-informed referrals.

What can you do?

- Support victim's right to make decisions.
- Success is based on what you do, not what patient/victim does or does not do.
- Recognize your frustration/fears etc.
- Utilize services within your facility/community.
- Link patient victim with those services.



Public Health RESPONSE to DV

Recognize the problem

Educate the public

Screen routinely

Primarily prevention focus

Ongoing staff education

New data sources

Strategies for intervention

Engage with community partners

(Chamberlain, 2004)

Thank You

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