GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

ADVICE FOR HEALTH + CARE PROFESSIONALS

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DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH SCOTTISH WOMEN’S AID, NHS BOARDS GBV LEADS + PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH QUALITY & SAFETY FELLOWS · NHS SCOTLAND @SQSFellowship

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NHS EDUCATION FOR SCOTLAND
https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/741/quality-improvement-zone
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

IMPACT OF COVID SOCIAL DISTANCING + ISOLATION

1 IN 4 WOMEN AFFECTED

Mostly, but not exclusively women

- Domestic Abuse
- Rape + Sexual Assault
- Commercial or other exploitation

REPORTS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE ARE IN THE HOME

42%

COVID-19 STAY AT HOME MESSAGE MAY INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR VIOLENCE TO OCCUR

COVID IS NOT THE CAUSE OF VIOLENCE

REDUCE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE TO SEEK HELP
1. Be alert to immediate needs when someone phones you

Say:

Can you please turn off the speaker phone as it echoes?

Do you need to speak to someone immediately because it is only safe to speak now?

For most people, a call back may be offered - but some may need urgent assistance.
GETTING READY TO MAKE A CALL...

- Gut instinct
- Quiet zone
- Focus

CHECKLIST

- Have a plan in place if someone else answers
- Say "If it helps, we will say it's 'Angela;' when we phone"
- Try to speak to them alone - they may need to move to another part of the house
- Consider if children are around + their ages. Perpetrators may use them to gain information
- Ask them to say "Great Thanks" if ok; "Yes please," if not ok.
- Say: "If you are in danger say 'Tuesday' + I'll call the police"
3 Stay Alert for Clues

- Do things add up?
- Are they dropping hints?
- Do the words match the emotions?
- What's going on in the background?
- Tone of voice
- Do you need to offer a face to face appointment?
4. Show you are listening

Listening builds trust and may support people to ask for help.

Verbal cues: paraphrase, pause, clarify.

Your team can support people during contacts (if safe to do so) by asking:

- How are things at home for you?
- Are you safe at home?
- Do you feel scared at home?
- Is there anyone I can call for you?
- Would it be safer for you to be seen at our clinic?
Local plans may vary between health boards - make sure you have local information

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline
0800 027 1234 or
email/webchat SDAFMH.org.uk

Help available locally:
Phone/TXT

It can be safer for someone to TXT
**Gender Based Violence**

**Impact of COVID Social Distancing + Isolation**

- 1 in 4 women affected
- 42% of domestic abuse are in the home
- Mostly, but not exclusively women
- Domestic abuse
- Rape + sexual assault
- Commercial or other exploitation
- COVID-19 message may reduce the opportunity for domestic violence to occur
- COVID-19 message may increase the opportunity for people to seek help

**Local Plans May Vary Between Health Boards**

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline
0800 022 1234 or E-mail/webchat: safehands.org.uk

**Help Available Locally:**

Phone / TXT

It can be safer for someone to TXT

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**GETTING READY TO MAKE A CALL...**

- Quiet zone
- Listen and observe
- Focus

**CHECKLIST**

- Have a plan in place if someone else answers
- Say, "If it helps, we will say it's 'Angela' when the phone rings"
- Try to speak to them alone, they may need to move to another part of the house
- Consider if children are around
- Ask them to say "great thanks" if okay, "yes please" if not ok
- Say, "If you are in danger, say 'Tuesday' and I'll call the police"
These slides and poster and video versions of this presentation are available at:

https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/741/quality-improvement-zone