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Human Trafficking an Overview

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We do it **4** the kids.
NURSING EXCELLENCE: MAGNET **2020**



No Financial, Commercial, or Other Conflicts of Interest



Objectives

- Review definitions of human trafficking
- Identify risk factors for human trafficking and trauma informed approach to care
- Discuss resources for identifying and reporting human trafficking

Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and its subsequent reauthorizations define human trafficking as:

- a) Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- b) The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(9)).



Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000

Definitions:

1. Involuntary Servitude
2. Debt Bondage
3. Coercion
4. Commercial Sex Act

(National Human Trafficking Hotline, 2021)



Definitions: Sex and Labor Trafficking

The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and child sex trafficking are overlapping terms:

- Trafficking for sexual purposes, prostitution, sex tourism
- Youth engaging in “survival sex”
- Youth engaging in sexual acts for money

Labor trafficking: an individual performs labor or services through the use of force, fraud, coercion

- Examples: debt bondage, forced labor, and involuntary child labor

Human Trafficking of Minors is Child Abuse!!!

Trafficking of a child is considered child sexual abuse

It needs to be reported

These youth are victims of a crime

Report to either law enforcement or Social Services

Trafficking – Media Search

📰 Top stories :



azcentral.

Casa Grande police:
Couple arrested in sex
trafficking of woman's
13-year-old daughter

18 hours ago



Cincinnati.com

Enquirer files suit
against judge overseeing
human trafficking case in
Scioto County

18 hours ago



yahoo!entertainment

Allison Mack Begins 3-
Year Prison Sentence in
NXIVM Sex Trafficking
Case

3 hours ago



WFLA CENTRAL CA

New law aimed at
helping survivors of
human trafficking clear
criminal records

16 hours ago



yahoo!news

Libya arrests 2
suspected traffickers,
returns 53 to Egypt

2 days ago



POLITICO

UK braces for human
trafficking surge from
Afghanistan

5 days ago



Denver Police Dedicate Specialized Team To Human Trafficking Cases

The Denver Police Department has created a Human Trafficking Enforcement Team dedicated to identifying the many victims who suffer in silence.



Denver Officials Say Federal Grant Will Fight Human Trafficking

Denver's DA says her office can hire a second investigator focused on human trafficking with help from a federal grant.



Couple Accused Of Forcing Adopted Kids To Work At Illegal Puppy Mill

A Texas couple is accused of using their five adopted children as slave labor at an illegal puppy mill.



Man Sentenced To 24 Years For Soliciting Child Prostitutes On Facebook

A Brighton man has been sentenced to 24 years in prison for soliciting child prostitutes and human trafficking of minors on Facebook.



Truck Drivers Lobby Lawmakers In Effort To Combat Human Trafficking

Commercial truck drivers are asking state lawmakers to help them combat human trafficking.



Prostitution Sting Nets 440+ Responses

In a recent prostitution sting, the Fort Collins Police Department received more than 440 responses to online ads for sexual services.

Trafficking – Denver Media Search

<https://www.denverpost.com> › 2015/01/26 › fbi-recove... ⋮

FBI recovers 6 minors, arrests 2 in Denver Stock Show sex ...

Jan 26, 2015 — Federal and local law enforcement officials recovered six child victims of domestic **sex trafficking** and arrested two alleged traffickers ...

<https://www.coloradoan.com> › story › news › 2017/01/06 ⋮

Authorities on alert for human trafficking at stock show - The ...

Jan 6, 2017 — Authorities are on high alert for **human trafficking** as crowds come to Denver for the National **Western Stock Show**.

<https://kdvr.com> › news › groups-come-together-for-hu... ⋮

Sex trafficking survivor tells story to help raise awareness in ...

Feb 19, 2015 — A few weeks ago, six children were rescued from child **sex traffickers** during the National **Western Stock Show**. Investigators say large events ...

<https://www.tsln.com> › news › national-western-stock-s... ⋮

National Western Stock Show addresses news report

The National **Western Stock Show** & Rodeo addresses the recent news story about an illegal **sex trafficking** operation that targeted the annual, national event.

<https://www.nydailynews.com> › news › crime › 6-child... ⋮

6 child sex-trafficking victims rescued, 2 adults arrested in ...

Jan 27, 2015 — The FBI swept Denver for illegal activity as the National **Western Stock Show**, with its Grand Champion, Red Rocky, drew hundreds of thousands ...

Page 3 of about 36,300 results (0.37 seconds)



7 indicted in Denver human trafficking ring

DENVER — Authorities on Thursday announced the indictments of seven people in a human trafficking ring involving illegal massage parlors in...

Aug 20, 2020



Grand Jury indicts masseurs suspected of trafficking women

...

AURORA | A Denver grand jury on Thursday indicted seven people and a dozen businesses for allegedly operating a complex human trafficking...

Aug 20, 2020



'Bad Apple' human trafficking ring busted in Denver; 7 people

...

'Bad Apple' human trafficking ring busted in Denver; 7 people, 12 businesses indicted · Mr. Chen Liang Kuo, 45 · Ms. Yi Ting Mo, 42 · Mr. Manqui Xu...

Aug 20, 2020



DOJ – Media Search

JUSTICE NEWS



September 8, 2021

Press Release

SWGA Pair Sentenced to Federal Prison for Trafficking a Runaway Teen

September 8, 2021

Press Release

Garner Man Sentenced to 156 Months for Human Trafficking

September 3, 2021

Press Release

Omaha Woman Sentenced for Role in Sex Trafficking of Minors

August 27, 2021

Press Release

Omaha Man Sentenced for Role in Sex Trafficking of a Minor

August 27, 2021

Press Release

Second Man Charged in Deaths of Smuggled Chinese Migrants

By the Numbers - Epidemiology

Human Trafficking: Epidemiology

Estimated that between 20-40 million people in modern day slavery

Estimated that only .04% of trafficked persons are identified

Global profit estimated at \$150 BILLION dollars

\$99 BILLION from commercial sexual exploitation

Globally 71% of enslaved people are women/girls and 29% men/boys

2018- over half of trafficking cases in US involved only children

Breaking Down the Average Age of Entry

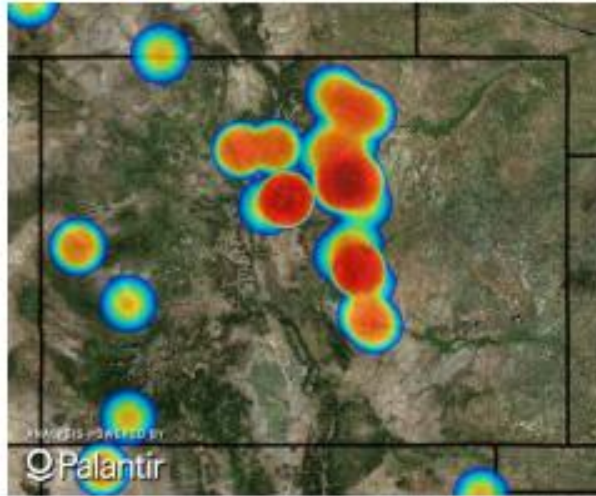
- ✓ 12-14 is the average age of entry into sex trafficking.
 - ✓ 47% entered trafficking at the age of 13–14 years;
 - ✓ 15% entered at the age of 15 years;
 - ✓ 29% entered at the age of 12 years or younger
- Overall - Early to middle adolescence

By the Numbers

- True rate unknown
- In 2018 Polaris estimated the number of trafficked persons was easily into the hundreds of thousands, including adult and child sex and labor trafficking.
- Majority of cases are originating in California, Texas, Florida, Ohio and New York.
- 88% of child and adult victims encounter at least one health care provider (HCP) without being identified as trafficked
- HCP's lack training to identify trafficked persons



Colorado – By the Numbers



The image above is a heat map that reflects the cases reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2016. Areas in which greater numbers of cases were reported contain more red shading. Areas in central and northern Colorado contain red shading. This map only reflects cases in which the location of the potential trafficking was known. Some cases may involve more than one location.



384

Cases Reported



774

Potential Persons
Trafficked

DEMOGRAPHICS OF POTENTIAL PERSONS TRAFFICKED:

Citizenship

U.S. Citizen/Legal
Permanent Resident: 128

Foreign National: 89

Gender

Female: 292

Male: 83

Gender Minorities: 1

Age

Adult: 263

Minor: 96

*These statistics are non-cumulative. Cases may involve multiple victims and include males and females, foreign nationals and U.S. citizens, adults and minors. In some cases, callers do not provide demographic information.

For more statistics on human trafficking in Colorado, visit <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/state/colorado>.

TOP 5

SEX TRAFFICKING VENUES

1. Commercial-Front Brothels
2. Hotel-/Motel-Based
3. Other Venues
4. Online Ad. Venue Unknown
5. Residential Brothels

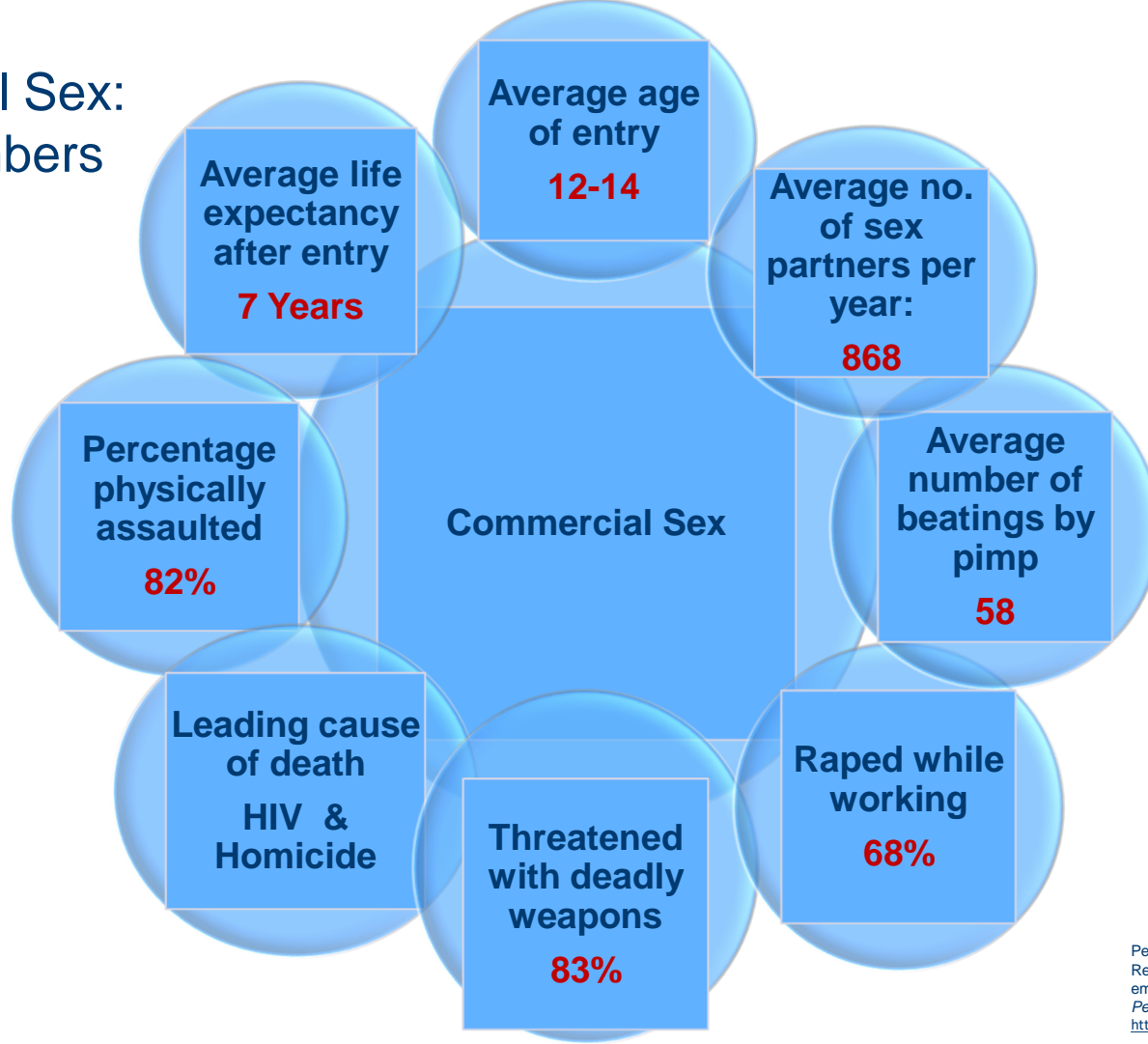
TOP 5

LABOR TRAFFICKING VENUES

1. Traveling Sales Crews
2. Restaurants/Food Service
3. Agriculture
4. Domestic Work
5. Construction

Colorado – Continued

Commercial Sex: By the Numbers



Myths and Misconceptions

- Human Trafficking does not occur in the US, only in other countries.
- Trafficked persons are only poor.
- Human Trafficking is only sex trafficking.
- There is always force, fraud or coercion into commercial sex.
- Trafficked persons will attempt to seek help when in public.
- That it does not need to be reported if you are less than 18 years if that is what the patient or family want.

Human Trafficking: Key Points

- ✓ Geographic relocation is not always present
- ✓ Physical force, abuse, restraint is not always present
- ✓ Any minor involved in prostitution (or survival sex) is a victim of sex trafficking and child abuse.
- ✓ Any minor under the age of 18 who is induced to perform commercial sex acts is a victim of human trafficking, regardless of whether he or she is forced or coerced.
- ✓ **High risk youth** at particular risk

High Risk Youth Defined

- ✓ Victims of prior abuse
- ✓ Homeless children
- ✓ Runaways
- ✓ Youth forced out of their homes
- ✓ LGBTQ+ community
- ✓ History of substance abuse
- ✓ Prior legal involvement
- ✓ Youth within the foster care or child welfare system

Risk Factors for Trafficking

TABLE 1. Risk factors for child trafficking

Individual	Relational	Community or societal
Age: early to middle adolescence	Parental substance abuse	Social isolation or bullying
Runaway status	Parental abuse or neglect	Sexualization of children
Identification as LGBTQI	Family conflict, disruption, or dysfunction	Indigenous or first nations children
Foster care placement	Forced out of their homes by family members	Recent immigration or migration
Juvenile justice system involvement	Family domestic violence	Gang involvement
Substance abuse or misuse	Single-parent families	Children from impoverished communities
Mental illness	Children with a deceased parent	Underserved neighborhoods and communities
High ACE score		Underresourced schools
Survivors of abuse or neglect		Lack of awareness of CT
Intellectual and other disabilities		Lack of available resources to respond to CT
Immigrant or refugee status		

Note. ACE, adverse childhood events; CT, child trafficking; LGBTQI, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, and Intersex.

Source: Choi, 2015; Niegarten, 2018; Reid et al., 2018; United States Department of State, 2019.

Concerns to Recognize

- Disclose that they were reluctant to engage in selling sex, but were pressured/forced to
- Live where they work
- Have a pimp or “manager” in the sex trade
- Work in an industry where they might be pressured into performing sex acts for money - strip club, illicit massage business
- Have older or controlling guarding, romantic partner or sponsor who will not allow you to talk to them alone, monitors their movements or controls their spending

Challenges in Identification

- Patients don't self identify
- Reluctance to disclose
- Research tools for quick screening are limited in the health care setting
- HCP's lack training to identify trafficked persons

Screening and Identification – Confidential Screening for Sex Trafficking Among High-Risk Minors in a Pediatric Emergency Department

Hurst IA, Abdoo DC, Harpin S, et al. Confidential Screening for Sex Trafficking Among Minors in a Pediatric Emergency Department. Pediatrics. 2021;147(3): e2020013235

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2020-013235>





Objective

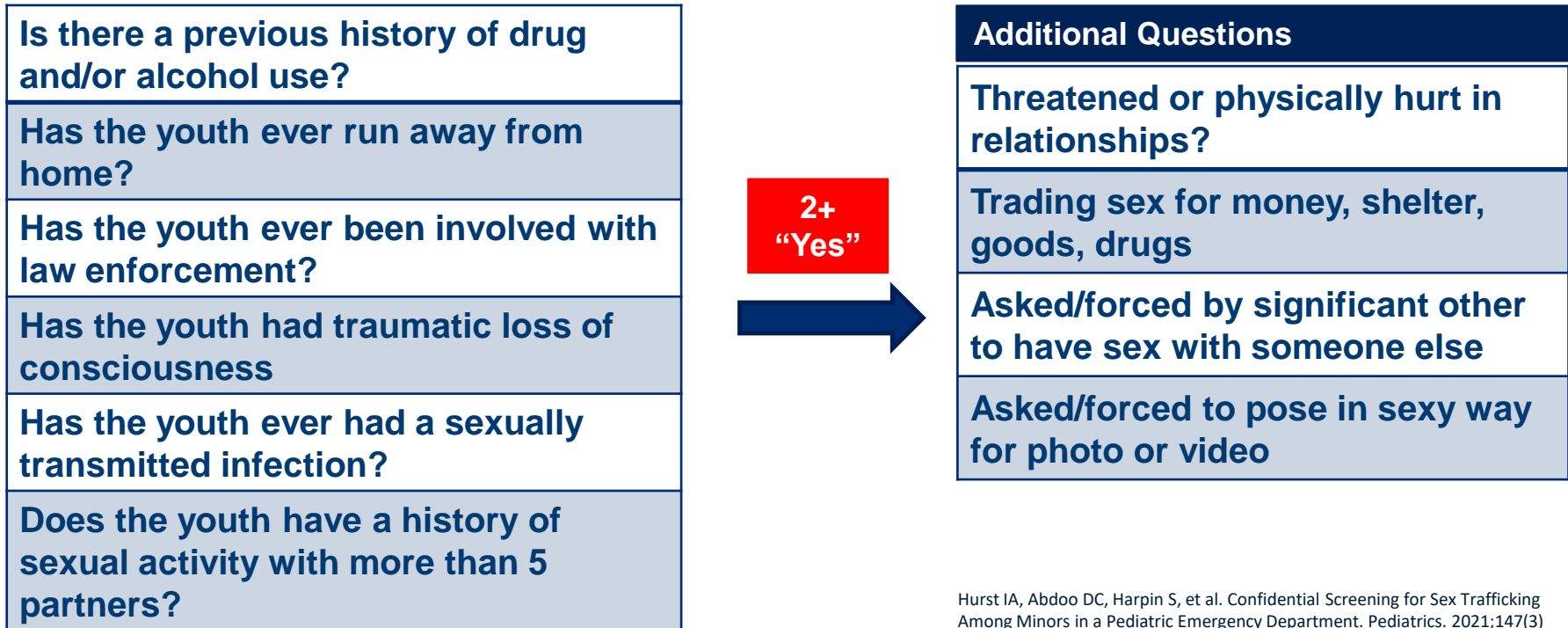
To confidentially administer a validated screening tool in the PED using an electronic tablet to screen for sex trafficking in high-risk minors

Methods: Study Design

- Prospective, cross-sectional survey of high-risk minors
- 12-17 years old
 - Psychiatric complaints, GU complaints, sexual abuse, assault, or violence, concern for trafficking
 - English and Spanish speaking
- 6-question survey administered confidentially on an electronic tablet
 - Expanded sex trafficking questions if more than 2 questions “positive”

Methods: Screening Tool

- Screening tool developed to detect victims of child sex trafficking
- Validated in numerous settings (*Child Advocacy Center, Emergency Departments, Teen Clinics*)



Methods

- Practitioner survey to identify alternate risk factors
 - PMH, PSH, appearance of subject, demeanor of subject, ER testing, etc.
- Social work determined trafficking status via Likert scale
 - **Options:** highly likely → highly unlikely and “unknown”
 - **Confirmatory review:** true positive, false negative, unknown
- Analysis:
 - Sensitivity, specificity, PPV and NPV calculated based on SW determination of trafficking
 - Multivariate logistic regression model performed to evaluate alternative behavioral risk factors

Study Sample Derivation

377 Patients
Screened

Did not meet inclusion criteria = 12 (15.8%)
Altered mental status = 31 (40.8%)
Cognitive or developmental delay = 27 (35.5%)
Not English or Spanish speaking = 6 (7.9%)
Prisoner = 1 (1.3%)

301 Eligible

214 Enrolled (71.1%)

Missing data = 2

Subjects analyzed =
212

37 Screened
(12.3%)

50 Refused (16.6%)

Associate refused to
leave room = 7

Participant refused = 39

Other = 4

Results: Demographics



**Prevalence
: 12.3%**

Participant Demographics	Overall n=212	Positive n=26	Negative n=186	p
Sex				
Female	154 (72.6%)	23 (88.5%)	131 (70.4%)	0.14
Male	51 (24.1%)	3 (11.5%)	48 (25.8%)	
Other	7 (3.3%)	0 (0%)	7 (3.8%)	
Age, median (IQR)	15 (13-16)	15 (14-17)	15 (13-16)	0.02
Race				
White/Non-Hispanic	84 (39.6%)	6 (23.1%)	78 (41.9%)	0.03
White Hispanic/Latino(a)	71 (33.5%)	11 (42.3%)	60 (32.3%)	
Black	29 (13.7%)	4 (15.4%)	25 (13.4%)	
Asian	3 (1.4%)	0 (0%)	3 (1.6%)	
Unknown	8 (3.8%)	4 (15.4%)	4 (2.2%)	
Other	17 (8.0%)	1 (3.9%)	16 (8.6%)	

Results: Survey Responses

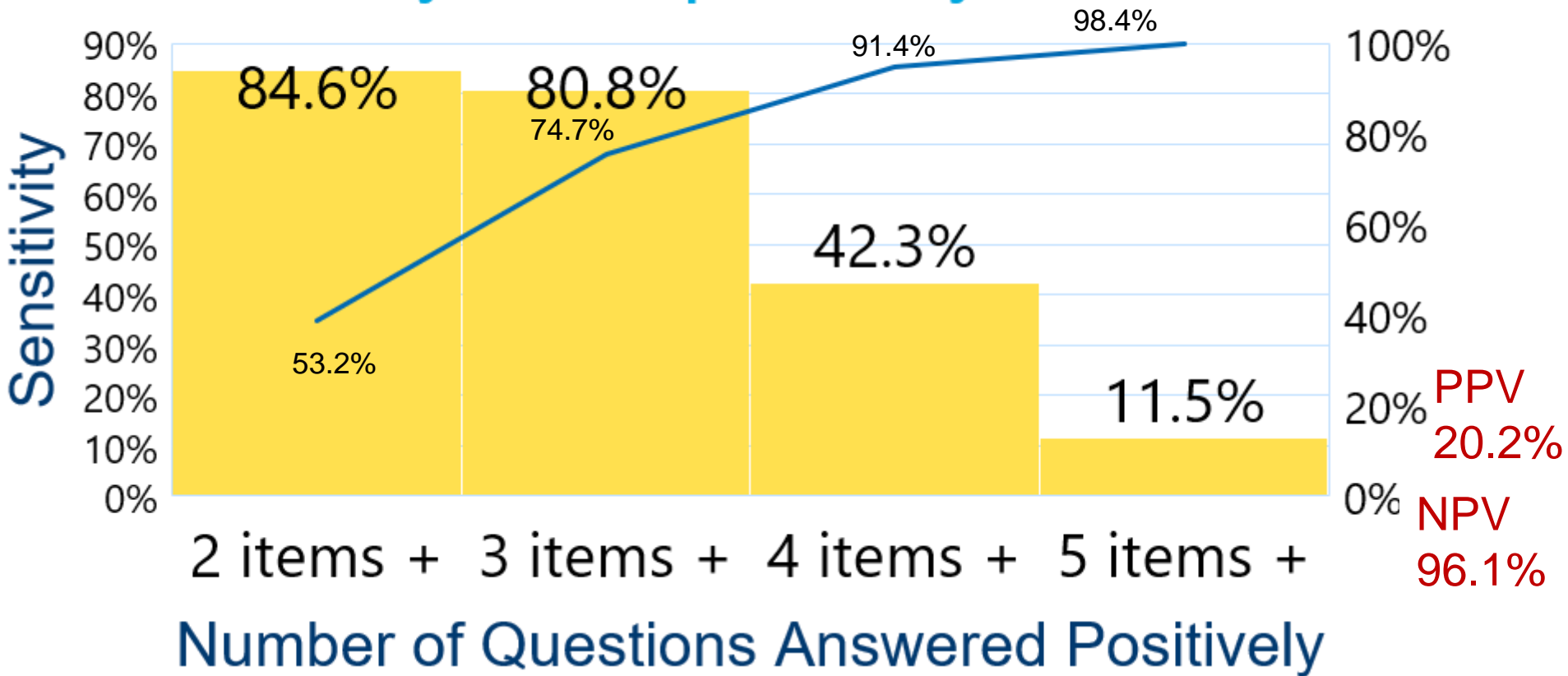
Survey Responses	Overall n=212	Trafficked n=26	Not Trafficked n=186	p
Knocked unconscious	40 (19.0%)	10 (40.0%)	30 (16.1%)	0.01
Running away	102 (48.1%)	23 (88.5%)	79 (42.5%)	<0.001
Drugs/Alcohol in last 12 months	103 (48.8%)	20 (76.9%)	83 (44.9%)	0.002
Problems with police	95 (44.8%)	21 (80.8%)	74 (39.8%)	<0.001
Any sex	110 (52.6%)	21 (80.8%)	89 (48.6%)	0.002
Number of sexual partners				
0 partners	92 (45.3%)	2 (9.1%)	90 (49.7%)	0.001
1-5 partners	94 (46.3%)	17 (77.3%)	77 (42.5%)	
6-10 partners	7 (3.5%)	1 (4.6%)	6 (3.3%)	
>10 partners	10 (4.9%)	2 (9.1%)	8 (4.4%)	
Sexually transmitted diseases	19 (9.0%)	6 (23.1%)	13 (7.0%)	0.02

Prevalence 12.3%

Additional Risk Factors

Covariate	Odds Ratio (95% CI)
Positive screen	5.0 (1.6-15.7)*
History of suicide attempt	3.1 (1.2-8.2)*
History of child abuse	4.4 (0.9-20.2)

Sensitivity and Specificity of Screen



Conclusions

- The prior 6-question screening tool was **valid** in our high-risk minors, administered in a confidential, electronic format
- Prevalence in our population of 12.3% – **slightly higher than other studies**
- A history of **prior suicide attempts and child abuse** were **associated with sex trafficking**, however their addition to the screening tool **did not improve sensitivity or positive predictive value**

Implications

- Confidential, electronic screening of high-risk minors is a potentially resource saving modality in a busy, clinical environment
- Adolescents may be more likely to disclose risky behaviors in electronic form, potentially increasing detection of trafficking and prevalence
- This screening method could be easily applied across multidisciplinary settings

Unique Health Care Needs to Consider

Trauma – Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

- Child sexual abuse is one of many adverse/traumatic childhood experiences
- Trauma in childhood has been shown to lead to poor outcomes for mental and behavioral health in adulthood

ACEs = Adverse Childhood Experiences

The 3 types of ACEs include

ABUSE



Physical



Emotional



Sexual

NEGLECT



Physical



Emotional

HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION



Mental Illness



Incarcerated Relative



Abuse toward Parent

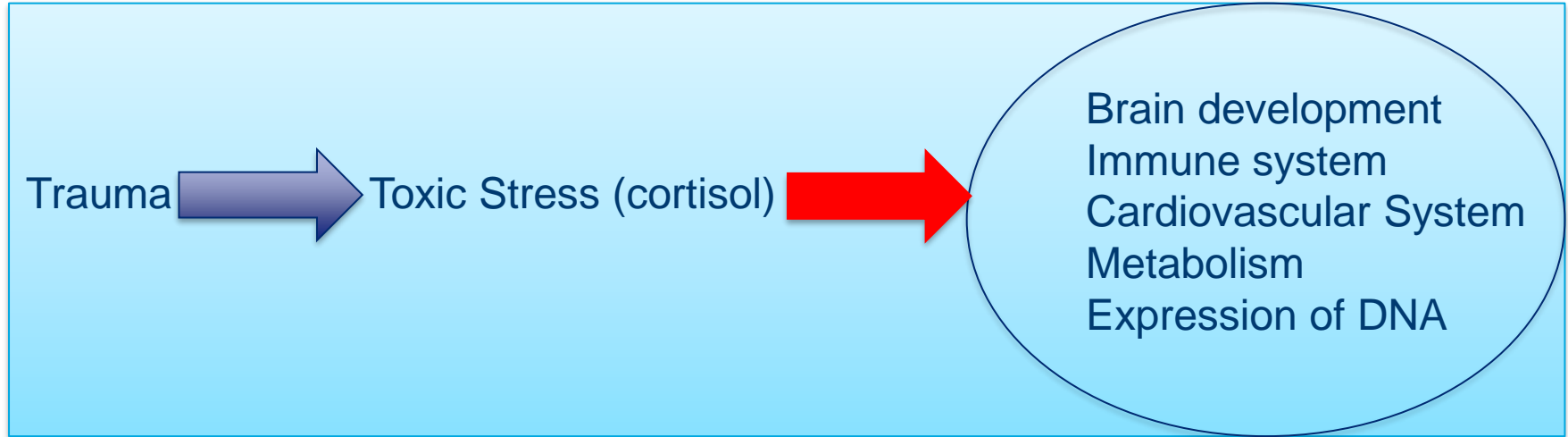


Substance Abuse



Divorce

How Trauma Affects the Body



Important to identify and mitigate trauma exposure!

Need to Consider: Medical Conditions

Potential for severe health effects for victims

- Violence/Abuse-unknown and untreated injuries
- Substance use/intoxication
- Poor work/living conditions
- Untreated chronic medical conditions-particularly psychiatric
- Neurological symptoms: poor concentration, headaches, dizziness, insomnia, memory problems

Physical Abuse and Violence

Physical Abuse

- Broken bones
- Skin injuries
- Malnutrition
- Chronic illness
- Anogenital trauma
- Other trauma
- **Murder**

Sexual Abuse

- Anogenital trauma
- Infections:
 - STIs
 - HIV
 - UTI
 - Pelvic Inflammatory Disease
- Pregnancy/Abortion



Provider Response to Child Trafficked Persons

Evidence Based

- Work within your scope of education
- Know your mandatory reporting laws and follow them
- Referrals

Trauma Informed

- Safety - both emotional and physical safety.
- Choice - patient has complete control. Do not force any portion of exam
- Collaboration - shared decision making with your patient and other professionals
- Trustworthiness - respect and professional boundaries do not make promises you cannot keep.
- Empowerment - do not rescue the patient. Communicate this is a safe place, this is not your fault, you serve help

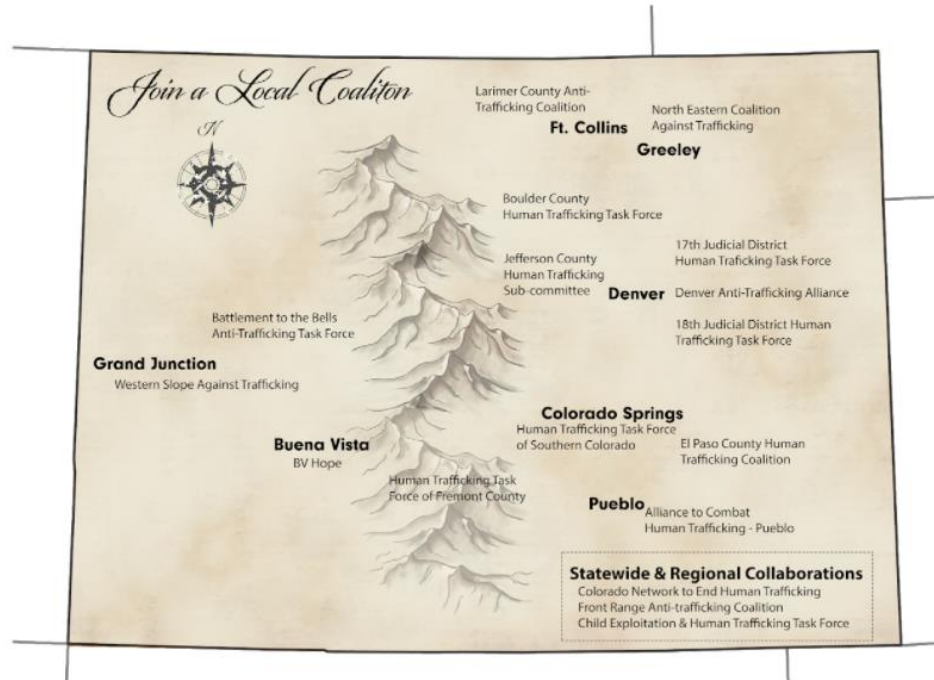
Provider Response Continued

Culturally Responsive

- Think about your personal biases and identify your biases
- Use professional interpreter services
- Realize and recognize culture differences between HCPs, law enforcement, trafficked persons, social services and other discipline involved in care.
- Advocate inclusive and representative teams

Resources

STATEWIDE COLLABORATIONS



(National Human Trafficking Hotline, 2021)

Resources

Search

To report suspected human trafficking to Federal law enforcement:	Para reportar un posible caso de trata de personas:
1-866-347-2423	1-866-347-2423
To get help from the National Human Trafficking Hotline:	Obtenga ayuda de la Línea Directa Nacional de Trata de Personas:
1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733)	1-888-373-7888 o enviando un mensaje de texto con HELP o INFO to BeFree (233733)

Follow the Blue Campaign

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE	Call 1-888-373-7888 (TTY: 711) *Text 233733 Live Chat
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(National Human Trafficking Hotline, 2021)



We do it **4** the kids.
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Colorado Reporting



Colorado Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline
844-CO-4-Kids

Available 24 hours a day, every day. Don't hesitate to call and get help. Anyone witnessing a child in a life-threatening situation should call 911 immediately.

For Medical Consultation Questions CHCO Child Protection Team 720-777-6919

(Colorado Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline. (2021). <https://www.co4kids.org/>)



Summary



Coordinated response

Local resources, victim advocates, law enforcement, social services, local DA's, SART, Innocence Lost



Develop protocols to help identify and respond to victims – more research needed!



Recognize signs and symptoms of trafficking victims



Non-judgmental, trauma informed health care



Self Care

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Thank you!

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