

# Objectives

- Define human trafficking, including both sex and labor
- Distinguish between common myths and facts
- Discuss possible signs and symptoms of trafficking in the presentation of patients in a healthcare setting
- Name resources and local anti-trafficking organizations

# What is Human Trafficking?

The use of force, fraud or coercion to obtain

a type of labor or commercial sex act.

- **Sex trafficking** is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age (22 USC § 7102).
- Labor trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a
  person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes
  of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery, (22 USC §
  7102).

https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking/federal-law

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ACTION	MEANS (DOES NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT IN A SITUATION OF SEX TRAFFICKING OF MINORS)	PURPOSE
Recruiting includes proactive targeting of	Force includes physical restraint, physical harm, sexual assault, and beatings. Monitoring and confinement is often used to control victims, especially during early stages of victimization to break down the victim's resistance.	Commercial Sex Act is any sex act on account of anything of value given to or received by any person.  Involuntary Servitude is any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that, if the person did not enter into or continue in such condition, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or the abuse or threatened
	Fraud includes false promises regarding employment, wages, working conditions, love, marriage, or better life. Over time, there may	abuse of the legal process. <b>Debt Bondage</b> includes a pledge of services by the debtor or someone under debtor's control to pay down known or unknown
	be unexpected changes in work conditions, compensation or debt agreements, or nature of relationship.	charges (e.g., fees for transportation, boarding, food, and other incidentals; interest, fines for missing quotas, and charges for "bad behavior"). The length and nature of
Providing includes giving to another individual		those services are not respectively limited and defined, where an individual is trapped in a
exchanging something for ability to control	<b>Coercion</b> includes threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person, psychological manipulation, document confiscation, and shame- and fear-inducing threats to share information or pictures with others or report to authorities.	cycle of debt that he or she can never pay down. <b>Peonage</b> is a status or condition of involuntary servitude based on real or alleged indebtedness. <b>Slavery</b> is the state of being under the ownership or control of someone where a person is forced to work for another.



### Myth or Fact?

#### \*Human trafficking involves moving, traveling or transporting a person across state or national borders.

\*Reality: Human trafficking is often confused with human smuggling, which involves illegal border crossings. In fact, the crime of human trafficking does not require any movement whatsoever. Survivors can be recruited and trafficked in their own home towns, even their own homes.

#### \*Only women and girls can be victims and survivors of sex trafficking.

Reality: Men and boys are also trafficked but are far less likely to be identified. LGBTQ boys and young men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking.

### It's always or usually a violent crime.

Reality: By far the most pervasive myth about human trafficking is that it always - or often - involves kidnapping or otherwise physically forcing someone into a situation. In reality, most human traffickers use psychological means such as, tricking, defrauding, manipulating or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor.

#### \*Labor trafficking is only or primarily a problem in developing countries.

\*Reality: Labor trafficking occurs in the United States and in other developed countries but is reported at lower rates than sex trafficking.

 $\underline{https://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking-myths-and-facts}$ 

# Myth or Fact?

- People being trafficked are physically unable to leave their situations/locked in/held against their will.
  - \*Reality: 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 at that point as being under the control of another person.
- Human trafficking only happens in illegal or underground industries.
  - \*Reality: Human trafficking cases have been reported and prosecuted in industries including restaurants, cleaning services, construction, factories and more.
- \*People in active trafficking situations always want help getting out.
  - \*Reality: Every trafficking situation, like every human being, is unique and self-identification as a trafficking victim or survivor happens along a continuum. Fear, isolation, guilt, shame, misplaced loyalty and expert manipulation are among the many factors that may keep a person from seeking help or identifying as a victim at a given time even if they are, in fact, being actively trafficked.

https://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking-myths-and-facts

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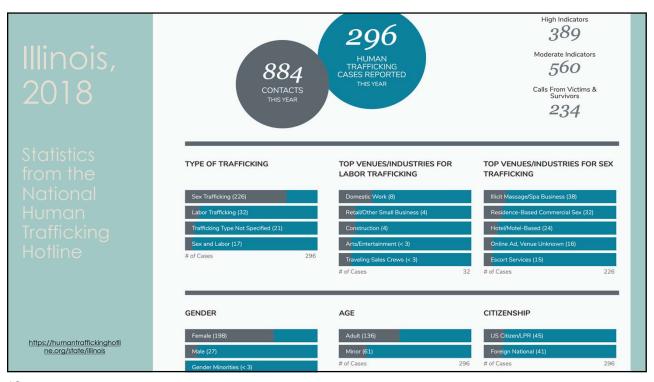
### Prevalence

According to the International Labour Organization, 2017 Report:

- An estimated 40.3 million people are in modern slavery, including 24.9 million in forced labor and 15.4 million in forced marriage.
- ❖1 in 4 victims of modern slavery are children.
- \*Out of the 24.9 million in forced labor, 16 million people are exploited in the private sector such as domestic work, construction or agriculture; 4.8 million persons in forced sexual exploitation, and 4 million persons in forced labor imposed by state authorities.
- ❖Women and girls are disproportionately affected, accounting for 71% of trafficking.
- \*3.8 million adults and 1 million children were victims of forced sexual exploitation in 2016. 99% of these were women/girls.
- \*Geographically, 62% of survivors were in the Asia and Pacific region, followed by the Africa region (23%), Europe and Central Asia (9%), the Americas (5%), and the Arab States (1%).

\*\*Please note: human trafficking statistics should be taken with caution due to difficulty of gathering data on the subject. There are likely many that are unaccounted for.

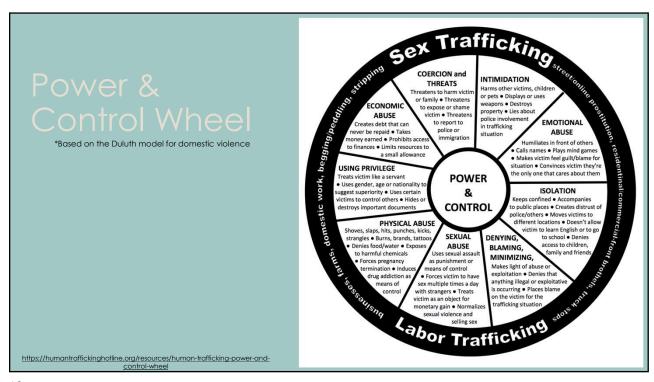
 $\underline{\text{https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/lang-en/index.htm}}$ 



# Trafficking Victims Protection Act

- Federal human trafficking legislation that sets forth guidelines and means for the prevention of human trafficking, protection of survivors and prosecution of traffickers.
- Created in 2000 and has been reauthorized multiple times since.
- Made human trafficking and related offenses federal crimes.
- $\,{}_{^{\circ}}$  Instructs the formation of an annual report.
- Mandates restitution.
- Provides guidance for governmental grants to provide resources and services to survivors and their families.
- Established the T-non immigrant visa which allows survivors of human trafficking and qualifying family members to become legal USA residents with the eligibility to work and become legal permanent residents (and eventual citizens).

https://www.state.gov/international-and-domestic-law/



### Risk Factors

- Lack of resources/poverty
- Homelessness, especially related to minors
- Immigration status
- Prior experiences of abuse and trauma
- Isolation
- Mental illness
- Lack of family and/or community support
- Physical and/or cognitive disabilities
- Language and/or cultural barriers
- Marginalized communities
- \*Trafficking happens across all socio-economic classes, races, nationalities, education levels and other backgrounds.

### Barriers to Healthcare

- Lack of financial resources.
- Lack of transportation.
- Limited mobility.
- Language/cultural barriers.
- Lack of knowledge/information.
- Limited education and/or literacy.
- Unstable housing.
- Lack of insurance.
- Immigration status.
- Distrust of systems/institutions.
- Fear of punishment by trafficker.
- Fear of being 'found out.'
- Fear of implicating family members/community members.





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### The Capability of Healthcare Providers

 A recent study showed that 87.8% of human trafficking survivors had come in contact with a healthcare provider while being trafficked.



- 68.3% of these had been evaluated in an Emergency Room
- Nurses have the opportunity to notice, assess, support and make a difference!



http://www.global centurion.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/The-Health-Consequences-of-Sex-Trafficking.pdf

# A Case Study: Adela

"Adela" is a 50-year-old Mexican woman who presents in the Emergency Room of the Cook County Hospital. She states that she fell down the stairs of her home several months ago and she has been experiencing a great deal of pain in her shoulder, back and pelvis area. A Nurse meets with her briefly to assess her needs and level of priority. The Nurse notes that Adela's clothing is unkempt, her teeth are decaying and her eyesight is not very good. Adela has no medical insurance and is hesitant to share much information about where she lives or where her family is. She expresses worry about not being able to pay for medical care and states she does not have much time to spare. Upon further questioning, the Nurse learns that Adela has not been to a doctor in over 15 years. The only times she has been to a medical facility in the USA were for abortions. Adela has trouble speaking of this and the Nurse notices some sadness and nervousness when discussing it. The Nurse also notices that some of the information she has shared is contradictory.

- ❖What should the Nurse do?
- ❖Are there any potential red flags for human trafficking?

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### Reasons a Survivor May Access Care

- Pregnancy, STI, abortion, childbirth
- On the job injuries
- · Addiction or substance-abuse related, overdose, withdrawal
- Psychiatric needs
- Depression, suicide attempt, anxiety
- Severe wound, injury or other

# Red Flags in a Medical Context



- Shares a scripted or inconsistent history
- Is unwilling or hesitant to answer questions about the injury or illness
- Is accompanied by an individual who does not let the patient speak for themselves, refuses to let the patient have privacy, or who interprets for them
- Evidence of controlling or dominating relationships (excessive concerns about pleasing a family member, romantic partner, or employer)
- Demonstrates fearful or nervous behavior or avoids eye contact
- Is resistant to assistance or demonstrates hostile behavior
- Is unable to provide his/her address
- Is not aware of his/her location, the current date, or time
- Is not in possession of his/her identification documents
- Is not in control of his or her own money
- Is not being paid or wages are withheld

National Human Trafficking Resource Center: https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/What%20los%20los%20los%20during%20a%20M edica%20kuring%20a%20M https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/What%20los%20los%20los%20during%20a%20M edica%20kuring%20a%20M https://doi.org/sites/default/files/what%20los%20los%20los%20kuring%20a%20M edica%20kuring%20a%20M edica%20kuring%20a%20A edica%20akuring%20a%20A edica%20akuring%20aku

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#### **Labor Trafficking**

- Has been abused at work or threatened with harm by an employer or supervisor
- Is not allowed to take adequate breaks, food, or water while at work
- Is not provided with adequate personal protective equipment for hazardous work
- Was recruited for different work than he/she is currently doing
- Is required to live in housing provided by employer
- Has a debt to employer or recruiter that he/she cannot pay off
- Live in the same place as they work

#### Sex Trafficking



- Under the age of 18 and is involved in the commercial sex industry
- Has tattoos or other forms of branding, such as tattoos that say, "Daddy,"
   "Property of...," "For sale," etc.
- Reports an unusually high numbers of sexual partners
- Does not have appropriate clothing for the weather or venue
- Uses language common in the commercial sex industry
- Material possessions beyond what seems affordable.
- Repeated/unwanted STIs and/or pregnancies

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

### Potential Health Indicators & Consequences: Physica

- Signs of physical abuse or unexplained injuries — Bruising — Burns — Cuts or wounds — Blunt force trauma — Fractures — Broken teeth — Signs of torture
- Neurological conditions Traumatic brain injury — Headaches or migraines — Unexplained memory loss — Vertigo of unknown etiology — Insomnia — Difficulty concentrating
- Cardiovascular/respiratory conditions that appear to be caused or worsened by stress, such as: — Arrhythmia — High blood pressure — Acute Respiratory Distress
- Dietary health issues Severe weight loss — Malnutrition — Loss of appetite

- Gastrointestinal conditions that appear to be caused or worsened by stress, such as: 

  — Constipation — Irritable bowel syndrome
- Reproductive issues Sexuallytransmitted infections — Genitourinary issues — Repeated unwanted pregnancies — Forced or pressured abortions — Genital trauma — Sexual dysfunction — Retained foreign body
- Substance use disorders
- Other health issues Effects of prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures — Effects of prolonged exposure to industrial or agricultural chemicals

https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/What%20to%20Look%20for%20during%20a%20Medical%20Exam%20-%20FINAL%20-%202-16-16\_0.pdf

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### Potential Health Indicators & Consequences: Mental

- Depression
- Suicidal ideation
- Self-harming behaviors
- Anxiety
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Nightmares
- Flashbacks
- Lack of emotional responsiveness
- Feelings of shame or guilt
- Hyper-vigilance
- Hostility

- Attachment disorders Lack of or difficulty in engaging in social interactions — Signs of withdrawal, fear, sadness, or irritability
- Depersonalization or derealization

   Feeling like an outside observer of themselves, as if watching themselves in a movie Emotional or physical numbness of senses Feeling alienated from or unfamiliar with their surroundings Distortions in perception of time
- Dissociation disorders Memory loss

   A sense of being detached from themselves A lack of a sense of self-identity, or switching between alternate identities A perception of the people and things around them as distorted or unreal

https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/What%20to%20Look%20for%20during%20a%20Medical%20Exam%20-%20FINAL%20-%202-16-16\_0.pdf

### Potential Health Indicators & Consequences: Social/Developmental

- Increased engagement in high risk behaviors, such as running away or early sexual initiation if a minor
- Trauma bonding with trafficker or other victims (e.g. Stockholm syndrome)
- Difficulty establishing or maintaining healthy relationships
- Delayed physical or cognitive development
- Impaired social skills

https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/What%20to%20Look%20for/ 20during%20a%20Medical%20Exam%20-%20FINAL%20-%202-16-16\_0.pdf

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# Screening

- Take the patient alone to a private room to do further assessment.
- Bring in a Social Worker/Advocate for additional support whenever possible.
- If language interpretation is needed, use professional in-person or telephonic interpreter.
- Then, discuss the following:
  - \*Have you been forced to engage in sexual acts for money or favors or debt?
  - Have you ever been forced to do work that you didn't want to do?
  - ❖Is someone holding your passport or identification documents? If so, why?
  - Has anyone threatened to hurt you or your family if you leave?
  - Has anyone physically or sexually abused you?
  - Do you have a debt to someone you cannot pay off?
  - Does anyone take all or part of the money you earn?

National Human Trafficking Resource Center: https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/Fram ework%20for%200k20Human%20frafficking%20Protocol%20 in%20Healthcare%20Settings.pdf

### Safety Assessment

- Questions to assess for immediate danger:
  - ❖Is the trafficker present?
  - What does the patient believe will happen if they do not return?
  - ❖Does the patient believe anyone else (including family) is in danger?
  - ❖Is the patient a minor?
- Depending on screening outcomes, a report can be made to the National Human
   Trafficking Resource Center Hotline: 1-888-373-7888
  - The Hotline will help with assessment, referrals, community resources and can also assist with safety planning.
  - \*Depending on the scenario, safety and risk, law enforcement may also be called.

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

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### Considerations

- Safety
- Trauma-Informed Approach
- Trust/Rapport
- Self-Determination
- Mandated Reporting & HIPAA
- Language barriers



# **Human Trafficking Protocols**

### **\* HEAL Trafficking**



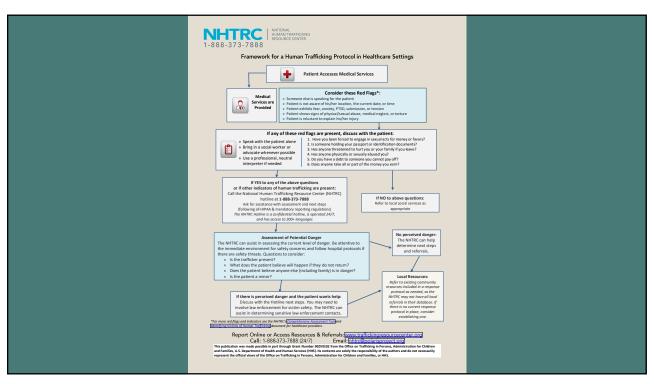
- Protocol toolkit specifically for use in healthcare settings: https://healtrafficking.org/2017/06/new-heal-trafficking-and-hope-for-justices-protocol-toolkit-for-developing-a-response-to-victims-of-human-trafficking-in-health-care-settings/
- ❖ Also offer technical assistance and support for implementing their protocol.

### Cook Country Human Trafficking Taskforce: Healthcare Subcommittee



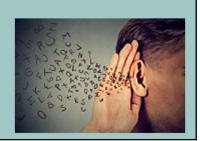
- ❖Model policy:
- https://www.cookcountytaskforce.org/uploads/9/1/3/5/9135373/model\_policy\_h\_ealthcare\_subcommittee\_final.pdf
- Also offer assistance to healthcare settings in how to adapt their model to the specific structure and needs of a specific setting.

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### What You Can Do

- Have an institutional protocol
- Be compassionate and non-judgmental
- Know that you are not law enforcement; it is not up to you to decide if they have been trafficked
- Offer education and resources
- Know your local resources and potential referrals
- Make a safety plan (if it is in the realm of your work, or refer to a Social Worker for help)
- Be trauma-informed and survivor-centered



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# Case Study: Follow-Up

What happened to Adela?

#### Victims of slavery and human trafficking are protected under United States and Illinois law

- Is being forced to engage in any activity and cannot leave, whether it is:
- · Commercial sex industry (street prostitution, strip clubs,
- massage parlors, escort services, brothels, internet), Private Homes (housework, nannies, servile marriages),
- Farm work, landscaping, construction,
- · Factory (industrial, garment, meat-packing),
- Peddling rings, begging rings, or door-to-door sales crews
- · Hotel, retail, bars, restaurant work or
- Any other activity
- Had their passport or identification taken away or
- Is being threatened with deportation if they won't work

**National Human Trafficking Resource Center** 

Or Text "HELP" to 233733 to access help and services.

- The hotline is:

   Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Toll-free.
- Operated by nonprofit nongovernmental organizations.

- Accessible in more than 160 languages.
  Able to provide help, referral to services, training, and general information.

For more information: www.TraffickingResourceCenter.org











Las víctimas de esclavitud y trata de personas están protegidas bajo las leyes de Estados Unidos y de Illinois

Si usted o alguien que usted conoce:

- Es forzado a participar en cualquier actividad y no puede dejarla, ya sea de:

  La industria del sexo comercial (prostitución callejera, clubes,
- salas de masaje, servicios de acompañante, burdeles, Internet) Residencias privadas (trabajo doméstico, cuidado de niños, matrimonios serviles)

- Trabajo en fincas, jardinería, construcción. Fábricas (industrial, textil, empacado de carnes). Grupos de venta ambulante, limosneros o grupos de ventas callejeras
- Hoteles, tiendas, bares, trabajo en restaurantes o Cualquier otra actividad.
- Le quitaron su pasaporte u otra forma de identificación.
  Le amenazan con deportación si rehúsa trabajar.

Centro Nacional de Recursos Para la Trata de Personas

O para acceso a servicios y ayuda, envíe un texto con la palabra "HELP" al 233733

- Está disponible las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana. Es gratis
- Está operada por organizaciones no gubernamentales sin fines de lucro.

- tines de lucro. Es anónima y confidencial. Está disponible en más de 160 idiomas diferentes. Puede brindar ayuda, recomendar otros servicios, proveer adiestramiento e información general.

Para más información: www.TraffickingResourceCenter.org

https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=82023

- Polaris: <a href="https://polarisproject.org/">https://polarisproject.org/</a>
- HEAL Trafficking: <a href="https://healtrafficking.org/">https://healtrafficking.org/</a>
- National Human Trafficking Hotline: https://humantraffickinghotline.org/
- United Nations: https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/index.html
- US Department of Health & Human Services: Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP): <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip</a>
- International Labour Organization: <a href="https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-">https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-</a>
- Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign: <a href="https://www.dhs.gov/blue-">https://www.dhs.gov/blue-</a>



### Local Organizations

- ERASE Clinic: comprehensive medical/mental health services specifically for survivors of trafficking in the Chicagoland area.
  - https://erasetrafficking.org/
- Heartland Alliance Freedom from Trafficking: comprehensive social services program that offers financial
  assistance and case management to foreign-born/non-USA cititzen survivors of trafficking.
  - https://www.heartlandalliance.org/program/freedom-from-trafficking/
- Salvation Army STOP-IT Program: comprehensive social services program that offers financial assistance and case management to any survivor of trafficking.
  - https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/stopit/
- Traffick Free: non-profit that raises awareness and supports survivors, including offering a drop-in center in Chicago.
  - https://traffickfree.org/
- Cook County Human Trafficking Taskforce: multi-disciplinary taskforce that combats human trafficking and supports survivors.
  - https://www.cookcountytaskforce.org/
- National Immigrant Justice Center: immigration services for survivors of human trafficking.
  - https://www.immigrantjustice.org/services/human-trafficking
- Metropolitan Family Services: immigration and other legal services for victims of crime, including human trafficking.
  - https://www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/practice-groups-2/
- Legal Aid Chicago: immigration and other legal services for victims of crime, including human trafficking.
  - https://www.legalaidchicago.org/

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