

GUIDANCE FOR NHSGGC STAFF WHEN IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO PATIENT EXPERIENCE OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.

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1. BACKGROUND

Gender-based violence (GBV) takes many forms. It is mainly targeted at women and girls although some men can be subject to abuse including men who are in same sex relationships, men who are forced into marriage, men who have a learning or physical disability and men who have been trafficked.

Gender-based violence takes many forms and it is important to record which form or forms the patient is being / has been subject to, and over what period of time the abuse took place. All forms of GBV are expressions of an abuse of power by one person, or group, over another person or group. GBV can take the form of financial, physical, sexual or psychological abuse and exploitation. It damages the health and well being of individuals and communities.

The following principles apply when, as a member of NHSGGC staff, you ask about or respond to, a known or suspected patient experience of GBV. You will find information on specific forms of GBV in the policies below (Section 3.) including risk assessment questions.

2. PRINCIPLES

- A. Wherever possible find some private and safe space to speak with the patient.
- B. Explain NHSGGC's policy on confidentiality.
- C. Sensitively ask about, listen to and believe the patient's story.
- D. Ensure that you know about the different risks associated with different forms by completing the Learn-Pro e-module on GBV and any other relevant training opportunities.

- E. Ensure that you know how to assess risk of harm. If there is risk of immediate harm contact Police Scotland.
- F. Ensure you know where to find out about help and information available to support and protect patients, including financial advice services, and how to access this help or assist a patient to access it.
- G. Ensure you know what is expected of you in terms of record keeping, reporting (including to Police Scotland and local authorities) and information sharing.
- H. Ensure you know how to create and communicate a clinical alert within Trakcare in order to alert ward staff that the patient may be at risk from partner/ family member and that specific visitors should not be allowed access.
- I. Ensure you play your part in ensuring NHSGGC complies with its legislative duties on all forms of GBV and the protection of children and vulnerable adults.
- J. If you are unsure on any of the above speak to a colleague or your manager.

NHSGGC has a Gender-based violence policy in place to address the needs of staff who themselves have experienced or are experiencing, or are perpetrators of GBV. See link to this policy in list below.

3. SPECIFIC NHSGGC POLICIES AND GUIDANCE

[Domestic abuse](#)- Key Elements Tool

[Sexual exploitation / Prostitution](#)

[Human Trafficking](#)

[Forced Marriage](#)

[Briefing paper on Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#)

[NHSGGC Care Pathway for Revision of Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#)

[Childhood Protection Procedures](#)

[Adult Support and Protection Guidance](#)

[Emergency Department and Minor Injuries Unit GBV Policy](#)

[Financial Abuse](#)

[NHS Employee Policy on GBV](#)

National Guidance

[What Health Workers need to know about Gender-based Violence \(Overview\)](#)

[Domestic Abuse – What Health Workers Need to Know](#)

[Commercial Sexual Exploitation. What health workers need to know](#)

[Childhood Sexual Abuse. What health workers need to know.](#)

[Rape & Sexual Assault. What health workers need to know.](#)

[Human Trafficking. What health workers need to know.](#)

[Harmful Traditional Practices. What health workers need to know.](#)