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Human Trafficking

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Overview of Human Trafficking
What is it?

What human trafficking is: The recruitment, transfer, or harboring of persons, through the use or threat of force, coercion, or deception, for the purpose of exploitation, including sexual exploitation and forced labor. It is a modern form of slavery where people profit from the control and exploitation of others.

Recruitment: Identifying and attracting victims
- Victims come from low socio-economic backgrounds
- A lot of women end up in trafficking because they don’t have opportunities for education or work in their home country so they migrate to other countries and get trapped during the process.
- Victims are deceived through promises of a job, job, or marriage into a country.

Victims:
- Women and girls make up 55 percent of the total number of estimated victims, 55 percent of the victims of forced labor, and 98 percent of the victims of sexual exploitation.

Exploitation:
- Organ harvesting
- Sexual exploitation
- Forced labor/slavery

Distribution of women in trafficking:
- Women and girls make up 55 percent of the total number of estimated victims, 55 percent of the victims of forced labor, and 98 percent of the victims of sexual exploitation.

Human Trafficking is now the THIRD most lucrative criminal enterprise in the world, after weapons and narcotics.

20.9 million victims globally

Human Trafficking on Pharmacy
Even though human trafficking does not directly impact pharmacy, pharmacists and other health care providers are often the only professionals that trafficked victims will come in contact with, due to the many health issues a trafficked victim can develop.

- Knowing the Signs of a Trafficked Victim: If pharmacists can recognize the different signs of a trafficked victim, they can possibly have the chance to ask certain questions to the victim or the victim’s ‘guardian’ that might give the pharmacist clarity on whether or not the individual is a victim.
- Contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center with any information on the potential victim and they will be able to put the pharmacist in contact with the correct people.

Indicators of Health Impacted

Access to Care:
- Hidden nature of trafficking restricts victims’ access to healthcare services while they are in trafficking situations.
- Withholding of medications due to fear of discriminatory treatment, being reported to immigration officials, and being able to afford treatment.

Victims also choose not to seek healthcare services due to fear of discriminatory treatment, being reported to immigration officials, and being able to afford treatment.

Healthcare services are not equipped to spot or help trafficking victims.

Financial Costs of Human Trafficking:
- Little to no profit from their trafficker.
- Any family members left behind suffer due to a lack of provider.
- Other family members are trafficked due to lack of resources.

Community:
- Victims associated with trafficking leads to lack of job for who may already be struggling with poverty.
- Large amounts of trafficked victims within a community tend to cause community violence.
- For those who do the trafficking—give them financial aid and other reason for getting into trafficking in the first place due to financial need.

Spiritual Cost of Human Trafficking:
- spiritual and emotional damage
- Loss of hope
- Anger at God or damage to faith due to the issue
- Depression
- Isolation
- Spiritual and emotional damage
- Psychotic disorder, and depression/shame.
- Physical and community questions plugging the situation
- Anger or guilt or shame due to the issue
- Some would withdraw their faith and work to end trafficking.

Public Health Impact
It is estimated that 82% to 80% of trafficked individuals access health services at least once for routine testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), contraceptive care, and general health care.

Prevention:
- Awareness of the situation
- Knowing the Signs of a Trafficked Victim
- Contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center with any information on the potential victim and they will be able to put the pharmacist in contact with the correct people.

Costs of Trafficking
Heath Costs of Human Trafficking
- Physical injuries
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Substance abuse
- Mental disorders
- Trauma

Determators of Health

Social Factors
- Income
- Environmental
- Family and romantic partners
- Violence
- Mental health

Marginalization: lack of self-esteem, identity, poverty, and a lack of education
- Perceived stigma
- Gender

Health System’s Inability to Identify Trafficked Victims
- The health system’s inability to identify an estimated 120,000 people annually
- The lack of resources and training for health providers
- The lack of identification and attracting victims
- The lack of primary care facilities
- The lack of effective prevention measures
- The lack of resources

Victims also choose not to seek healthcare services due to fear of discriminatory treatment, being reported to immigration officials, and being able to afford treatment.

Victims are believed to hesitate seeking care due to fear of discriminatory treatment, being reported to immigration officials, and being able to afford treatment.

Hidden nature of trafficking restricts victims’ access to healthcare services while they are in trafficking situations.

Even though human trafficking does not directly impact pharmacy, pharmacists and other health care providers are often the only professionals that trafficked victims will come in contact with, due to the many health issues a trafficked victim can develop.

- The majority of girls are trafficked after puberty.

- There is little enforcement of the existing laws that have the potential to discourage and punish traffickers.
- Policy enforcement
- There is little enforcement of the existing laws that have the potential to discourage and punish traffickers.

Research and Science Today

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