



**An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Hospital**

# **MOI TEACHING AND REFERRAL HOSPITAL**

## **CENTRE FOR ASSAULT RECOVERY OF ELDORET (CAR-E)**



PRESENTER:

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SGBV CO-ODINATOR AT MTRH

**TOPIC:THE SILENT  
PANDEMIC:GENDER BASED  
VIOLENCE DURING COVID -19  
PANDEMIC**

# Gender-based Violence

- ❖ Any harm that is perpetrated against a person's will and that has a negative impact on the physical or psychological health, development, and identity of the person.
- ❖ The violence is the result of gender-based power imbalances, primarily between males and females, and sometimes between males, or between females.
  - GBV may be physical, sexual, psychological, economic, or socio-cultural.

# Forms of GBV Cont'd

- **Physical**
- Hitting, slapping, punching, kicking
- Burning
- Strangulation
- Damaging personal property
- Refusing medical care and/or controlling medication
- Coercing partner into substance abuse

# CT

- **Emotional**
- Name calling, insulting
- Blaming the partner for everything
- Extreme jealousy
- Intimidation
- Shaming, humiliating
- Isolation
- Controlling what the partner does and where the partner goes

# CT

- **Technological**
- Hacking into a partner's e-mail and personal accounts
- Using tracking devices in a partner's cell phone to monitor their location, phone calls and messages
- Monitoring interactions via social media
- Demanding to know partner's passwords

# CT

- **Financial**
- Inflicting physical harm or injury that would prevent the person from attending work
- Harassing partner at their workplace
- Controlling financial assets and effectively putting partner on an allowance
- Damaging a partner's credit score



# Covid-19 as a contributing factor to GBV

- Globally, locally the pandemic has :
  - 1.Devasted families and communities,
  - 2.Disrupted employment and livelihoods,
  3. Increased economic hardship
  4. Impacted women, Men and children in specific ways.

# Covid-19 as a contributing factor Ct

- Women, especially those who lost their jobs and earnings due to the pandemic and were made completely dependent on their husbands or partners, and girls who were stuck at home with no school, faced elevated levels of sexual and physical domestic violence while the restrictions on mobility limited their access to protection and treatment services, and justice for survivors

# Other Contributing factors CT

Factors that perpetuate GBV, or increase risk of GBV or influence type and extend of GBV.

- Poverty
- Alcohol/drug abuse
- Collapse of traditional society and family support systems
- Cultural and Traditional Practices ie Early Marriages,FGM

# Cont'd

- General lawlessness, Insecurity
- Impunity for perpetrators
- War, displacement
- Religious beliefs
- Desire for power and control
- Myths e.g when a woman is beaten its love!!

# WARNING SIGNS TO GBV

- These are the common signs and symptoms of GBV mostly in a relationship, however the list is endless, as some forms of GBV are subtle and some may not necessarily have visible signs:
- Extreme jealousy
- Possessiveness
- A bad temper
- Cruelty to animals
- Verbal abuse

# CT WARNING GBV SIGNS

- Extremely controlling behavior
- Forced sex or disregard of their partner's unwillingness to have sex
- Sabotage of birth control methods or refusal to honour agreed upon methods
- Blaming the survivor for anything bad that happens
- Sabotage or obstruction of the victim's ability to work or attend school

# CT SGBV WARNING SIGNS

- Controls all the finances
- Abuse of other family members, children or pets
- Accusations of the survivor flirting with others or having an affair
- Control of what the victim wears and how they act
- Embarrassment or humiliation of the survivor in front of others

# Physical consequences

- Permanent disability, Fractures, Bruises
- Gastro-intestinal disorder
- Chronic pain syndromes
- Genital injuries: fistulas, perineal tears



# Social consequences:

- Social stigma
- Rejection by partners, husbands, families, and communities.
- Social Phobia

# Role of a nurse in Prevention and Protection of gbv

- Address both root causes and contributing factors
- Advocacy
- Community Sensitisation
- Empowering women/men

# Cont'd

- Embrace men and boys in SGBV programs
- Capacity building of all actors
- Improved Security
- Implementation of SOA
- Programs for Youth in Elementary and Secondary Schools



# **MANAGEMENT OF THE SURVIVORS OF GBV**

# Guiding Principles for All

when working with SGBV survivors:

- ⇒ Physical safety of the survivor
- ⇒ Confidentiality
- ⇒ Informed consent
- ⇒ Non-discrimination
- ⇒ Respect wishes, rights and dignity of the survivor

# Essential Components of Medical care

- Documentation of injuries
- Collection of forensic evidence
- Treatment of injuries
- Psychosocial support and counseling
- Follow-up

# History: an account of events

- Compassionate and non-judgemental
- Survivor's own pace
- Document the incident in her own words
- Be thorough but don't force her
- Follow History and Examination form

# Children

- Introduce yourself
- Sit at eye level and maintain eye contact
- Assure the child she is not in trouble and can say no any time
- Begin the interview with neutral open-ended questions
- Be patient, go into the child's space
- Avoid leading or suggestive questions



# Physical examination

- Do a complete head to toe examination
- Note mental state of the client.
- Be systematic (head to toe, genital, anal)
- Collect evidence as you go along
- Be gentle, explain everything
- Don't do anything without consent!!!
- Document everything thoroughly (pictograms)

# FORENSIC EVIDENCE

- Locard's principle states that every contact leaves a trace..... 'wherever he steps, whatever he touches, whatever he leaves, even unconsciously, will serve a silent witness against him. Not only his fingerprints or his footsteps, but his hair, the fiber from his clothes, the glass he breaks, the tool mark he leaves, the paint he scratches, the blood or semen he deposits or collects.'

# Importance of Forensic Evidence

- To confirm recent contact to the survivor
- To show that force or coercion was used
- To possibly identify the assailant
- To corroborate the survivor's story
- To link or delink the perpetrator from the crime scene.

# Treatment

- Surgical Intervention
  - Examination under anesthesia
  - Repair of perineal tears, fistulas and other injuries

**NB :Treat life threatening complications first!**

- Psychosocial support.
- Temporary shelter for vulnerable clients
- Completing legal forms – P3 forms

# Legal Aid

- P<sub>3</sub> Filling
- Expert witness in court

# PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID FOR GBV SURVIVORS

# Psychological support

- Each survivor will experience and cope with the trauma of violence within her or his own culture and society.
- Any intervention must be tailored to the situation.
- Referral for social and psychological support services is an *essential component* of care for survivors.

## How to assist survivors

- Advise on psychological, emotional, social and physical problems she/he may experience
- Explain that it is common to experience strong negative emotions or numbness
- Refer for professional counseling



## Cont'd

- Usually best supported without medications
- **“Psychological first aid” (PFA)** is basic response that can be done by health care providers as well as other personnel caring for survivors.

# CAR-E

## Where are We?

- Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital
- Accident and Emergency Department Room No. 6
- Hotlines

**0746963222**



**All the services offered are  
FREE of charge.**



**Thank you**