Human Sex Trafficking: Screening

Children's Mercy KANSAS CITY | Evidence Based Practice

Exclusion Criteria:
- Children younger than 11 years
- Adolescents with significant cognitive impairments

Note: *These Individuals may be at risk; however, the current screening tool is not validated for these populations. If there is any concern of sex trafficking in these patients, consult Social Work and, if appropriate, SCAN*

Risk Factors for Sex Trafficking:
- Sexual health concern
- Sexual abuse or assault concern
- Request for pregnancy testing
- Under the influence of alcohol/drugs
- Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2) score of > 4
- Suicide attempt and/or positive Suicide Screening Questions (ASQ)
- In foster care/CPS custody
- Injury suspicious for abuse
- History of running away
- Any team member has concerns

SANE Exam Criteria:
Any of the following
- Last skin to skin genital contact within
  - 5 days (post-pubertal females)
  - 3 days (all other patients)
- Genital pain/bleeding
- Genital discharge in pre-pubertal child
- State specific perpetrator criteria

Additional Patient/Family Resources:
- Online safety
- Healthy Relationships
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children resources

Patient ≥ 11 years old with any risk factor for sex trafficking, regardless of the chief complaint

Is patient presenting for acute sexual assault and meets criteria for SANE exam?

Yes →

Off Pathway
- Consult SANE nurse for care
- If outside of CM, call 1-800-GO-MERCY for SANE

SANE nurse completes sex trafficking screen

No

Universal Education and Confidentiality

Provide Universal Education on Healthy Relationships
- Suggested script for Universal Education ***-or-***
- Link to video for talking points on Universal Education
- Hanging Out/Hooking Up - pocket card (*link to order cards in several languages)*

Discuss Confidentiality

Confidentiality is essential to maintain patient safety
- Screening must be completed privately, ***not*** in the presence of the person accompanying the patient (*trafficker might pose as family or friend*)
- Limitations of confidentiality must also be provided

  Refer to Confidentiality Tips
- If concerned, but unable to speak to patient alone, contact Social Work for assistance

  Only contact Security if there is an immediate or urgent concern for safety

Administer the Child Sex Trafficking Screening Tool (English) | (Spanish)

Suggested script for introducing tool is at the top of the tool

Specific screening processes will vary by clinical site
- ***Verbal***: May be done by clinician, nurse, or social worker, using Language Services if needed

Guidance for confidential documentation in Cerner

Proceed to scoring and follow-up

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Abbreviations:
- SANE: Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
- SCAN: Safety Care and Nurturing (clinic)
- STI: Sexually Transmitted Infection

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Human Sex Trafficking: Scoring and Follow-Up

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Additional Guidance
- Call SCAN if concern for other type of assault or abuse (Child Physical Abuse Clinical Pathway or Child Abuse Tool Kit)
- If other risk factors for STI, complete screening for STI (STI Clinical Pathway)
- ***Specifically report to Social Work if:***
  - Any photos/videos of the minor have been created or distributed
  - Minor reports exchanging sex for the promise of money or something of monetary value

Additional Patient/Family Resources:
- Online safety
- Healthy Relationships
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children resources

Review the Scoring Guidance to determine screening results
If performed by team member other than clinician and any questions are positive, discuss with clinician

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Less than three positive response to questions 2 - 6
-and-
no positive responses to questions 7 - 10

Lower Risk for Trafficking
- ***Provide*** support
- ***Refer to*** additional guidance as needed
- ***If needed***, contact Social Work for assistance

Regardless of screening results, if someone is concerned for trafficking, contact Social Work

Positive responses to **three or more** questions 2 - 6
-or-
any positive responses to **part a** of questions 7 - 9, but **no** positive responses to **part b** of questions 7 - 9 or to question 10

At Risk for Trafficking
- ***Provide*** support and validate responses to screening
- ***Consider*** Social Work consult (provider discretion)
- ***Refer to*** additional guidance as needed

Regardless of screening results, if someone is concerned for trafficking, contact Social Work

Any positive response to **part b** of questions 7 - 10
-or-
positive response to question 10

Trafficking has occurred
- ***Follow*** next steps depending on the care setting.
- ***Provide*** support and empower patient (Suggested script for positive screen ***-or-*** link to video for talking points for positive screen)

Next steps for community healthcare professionals
- ***Report to*** state child protective services and law enforcement
  - Reporting guidance for *Community Provider*
- ***Refer to*** additional guidance as needed
- ***Option to*** contact CMKC for guidance (call 1-800-GO-MERCY)

Next steps for CMKC healthcare professionals
- ***Contact*** Social Work if not already involved
- ***Report to*** state child protective services and law enforcement
  - Reporting guidance for *CMKC*
- ***Complete*** validation and/or affirmation disclosure
- ***Refer to*** additional guidance as needed

Complete Disposition and Consider Safety Plan

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