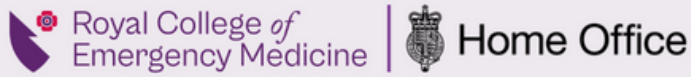


Information Sharing to Tackle Violence

#ISTV



Quick reference guide for all healthcare workers

This quick reference guide supplements a short film that has been produced for all healthcare workers in Emergency Departments (EDs). Its purpose is to support staff with data collation to feed into an important national programme – Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV).

Research shows that violence-related injuries treated in the ED decreases by up to one-third when data is collated effectively.

You can help reduce violence in your area by recording information you ask patients routinely every day. When we know where and how people are injured, up to one-third of injuries from violence can be prevented.

Information is then shared with community safety partnership teams – a system that helps prevent violence-related injuries, especially knife and gang related assaults.

ISTV can lead to safer places for us all and everyone has an important role to play. What you do really can make a difference.

[More on RCEM's website.](#)

The information we collect contributes vital pieces in a jigsaw - building a bigger picture



When we're at work, sometimes its easy to forget the bigger picture.



That we're not just healthcare workers but sometimes we need to be detectives too.

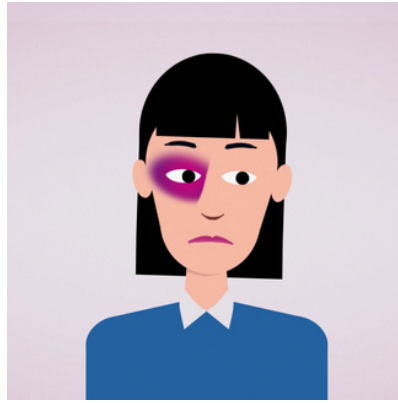


To help pick up the signs that help prevent injuries through violence. Sometimes it may not be obvious that an injury has been sustained through violence.

About 3/4 of people injured through violence and treated in EDs don't tell the police



We have a professional duty to be curious - to think about the possible causes for the injuries we see and treat.



We have to ask the right questions and think about any clues - which may include unexplained facial injuries, particularly in women.



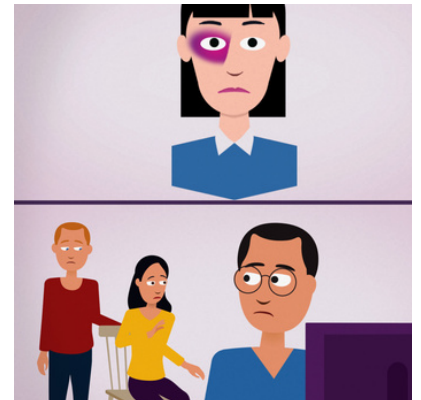
A relative refusing to leave a patient alone with healthcare workers.



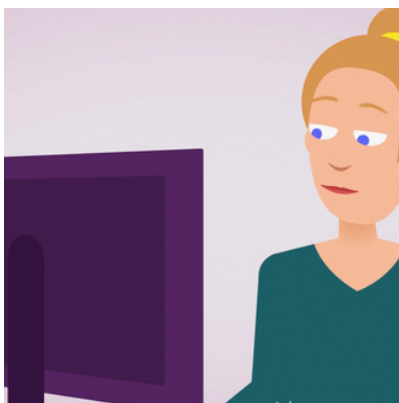
Defence wounds.



Or unusual bruising.



For many reasons a patient may be reluctant to say how an injury occurred. Although we can reassure them about safe options and confidentiality, it's always their decision to share information or not.



Staff have a professional duty to record any concern. If you don't spot these signs, it may mean no-one else will and those people who most need help become invisible.



If something doesn't seem quite right - you don't have to be completely certain, you can use the safeguarding coding to register your concern. This flags the patient for follow up.



By doing this, you ensure that the patient is visible and gets the help they need. All ED staff have a role to play - it's everyone's job to look after patients and make sure concerns are reported.