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### WARNING SIGNS

- Patient presents for STI or pregnancy testing or concerns, especially repeated presentations for these concerns
- Patient has a history of STI or pregnancy
- Patient has more than 5 reported sex partners
- Patient has run away from home or placement
- Patient has been thrown out of home
- Patient uses alcohol or substances or presents acutely intoxicated
- Patient has traumatic injury or loss of consciousness without clear history
- Patient has been involved with law enforcement and/or children's services
- Patient has untreated or sub-optimally managed mental or behavioral health concerns or has repeated presentation for these concerns
- Patient has previously been a victim of child maltreatment
- Patient is an unaccompanied migrant
- Patient is accompanied by domineering adult (e.g. speaking for patient, refusing to leave patient, controlling patient's movement)
- Patient changes or seems confused about their demographic information or location

Note: Items in column 1 are related to the validated short screen for child sex trafficking (Greenbaum et al., 2018 see references below)

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### FIRST RESPONSE

- Attend to presenting medical needs and treatment
- Consult social work if available
- Consider DCH physician connection line for 24/7 pediatric specialist phone consultation, if needed
- Consider consultation with pediatric trauma/abuse specialist, if needed
- Consider specific health care needs of patients experiencing or at risk for trafficking, if able, or refer for these needs, if possible
  - Preventative/health maintenance needs
  - Malnutrition or growth concerns
  - Dental concerns
  - Traumatic injuries

See list of pediatric consultants listed on Page 2: Resources - Step 2

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### ONCE MEDICAL CONCERNS ARE ASSESSED / TREATED

If possible, speak to patients >= 10 years old privately to further assess concern. See *Speaking with Pediatric Patients Tip Sheet* for more information.

Screening questions to consider:

- Has anyone ever asked you to do something sexual with another person?
- Has anyone ever asked you to do something sexual for something that you needed (money, food, a place to stay, etc.)?
- Has anyone ever asked you to do something sexual in public (club, bar, live-stream, etc.) or in front of other people?
- Have you ever been made to work instead of going to school?
- Has anyone ever asked you to be in a sexual photo or video or has anyone ever posted such a photo/video of you?
- Have you ever been made to do dangerous or illegal work?
- Have you ever been made to work overnight or long hours?
- Has someone ever refused to pay you what they promised to?
- Have you ever been hurt or controlled by someone you work for?

For patients < 10 with high clinical suspicion and/or specific concern for commercial exploitation, consider speaking to these patients privately about safety topics more generally. See *Speaking with Pediatric Patients Tip Sheet* for more information.

Screening questions to consider:

- Do you feel safe at school, home, activities?
- Is there anything that makes you feel unsafe?
- Has anything sad, scary, or unsafe happened to you or your body?

Gather what is needed for medical decision making or reporting, defer other information gathering to investigators.

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### ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL DANGER

**Report to the children's services agency where the child lives and the law enforcement agency where the crime occurred (or where the child lives, if location of crime unknown). Healthcare providers are mandated reporters for all persons < 18 where labor and sex trafficking/exploitation is suspected.**

See *Mandated Reporting Tip Sheet* for more information.

Consider providing resources; examples listed on Page 2: Resources - Step 4



### NOT PERCEIVED AS TRAFFICKING SITUATION

**Discuss any other concerns with caregiver (unless concern that caregiver may be an alleged perpetrator or unless it would violate a teenage patient's right to seek confidential healthcare. Refer to Ohio Revised Code or your institution's legal counsel, etc. for more info).**

Provide a list of relevant resources to patient/caregiver. Even if no specific concern for trafficking is identified, a patient with warning signs above may still benefit from resources.

See examples listed on Page 2: Resources - Step 4

# Resources

## DEFINITIONS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

**Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (or child sex trafficking)** is the exchange of sexual acts or materials by a person less than age 18 for anything of value. When a person younger than 18 performs a commercial sex act, it is a crime regardless of whether the alleged perpetrator used any force, fraud, or coercion.

**Commercial Labor Exploitation of Children (or child labor trafficking)** is the use of force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person less than 18 years to provide involuntary or illegal labor.

## STEP 2 - FIRST RESPONSE RESOURCES

### Mental and Behavioral Health Crisis Assessments

#### DCH Main Campus – Behavioral Crisis Center

M-F 8:00 am - midnight, Sat-Sun 12:00 pm - midnight: 937-641-4480  
After-hours evaluations available in the DCH ED

#### DCH South Campus

9:30 am – midnight in person evaluations  
After-hours evaluations via telehealth

### Other DCH Divisions

#### DCH Division of Child Advocacy (Child Abuse Pediatrics)

M-F 8:30 am - 4:30 pm: 937-641-3050  
After-hours: Contact physician connection or DCH operator 937-641-5900

#### DCH Social work

M-F 8:30 am - 4:30 pm: 937-641-5300  
After-hours: Contact DCH operator 937-641-5900

**DCH ED for evaluation of acute (occurring in the last 72-96 hours) sexual assault/abuse in patients < 13 years old for discussion of possible evidence collection by PSANE/Forensic Nurse in DCH ED**

Contact DCH SW  
M-F 8:30 am - 4:30 pm: 937-641-5300  
After-hours: Call DCH operator 937-641-5900

**If any patient/family is requesting a transfer to DCH ED for any reason, or an ED clinician has a question for another clinician or request for ED to ED transfer**  
Call DCH communications center 937-641-4385

## STEP 4 - POST-ASSESSMENT RESOURCES

### The National Child Traumatic Stress Network

Resources that can be filtered by type of trauma (abuse, violence etc.) and desired audience (families, children):  
[www.nctsn.org/resources/all-nctsn-resources](http://www.nctsn.org/resources/all-nctsn-resources)

### Mental Health Resource Connection at DCH

Connects patients and families to available mental health services in the community:  
[www.childrensdayton.org/patients-visitors/services/behavioral-health/specialties/mental-health-resource-connection](http://www.childrensdayton.org/patients-visitors/services/behavioral-health/specialties/mental-health-resource-connection)

### Linking Systems of Care for Ohio's Youth

Resources and service providers in Ohio filtered by county:  
[www.ohioheals.org](http://www.ohioheals.org)

# References

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