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WARNING SIGNS

- Patient is reluctant to explain or has inconsistencies when asked about their injury
- Patient exhibits fear, anxiety, depression, submission, tension, nervousness and/or avoids eye contact.
- Patient has an unusually high number of sexual partners for their age
- Patient shows signs of physical or sexual abuse, medical neglect, untreated STIs and/or torture
- Patient is not aware of their location (i.e. what city or state they are in)
- Patient has someone speaking for them

For a more comprehensive list, consult **Polaris Project's Potential Red Flags and Indicators Document**

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FIRST RESPONSE

Attend to medical needs and treatment – consult Social Work if available. If Social Work not available, follow steps below.

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ONCE MEDICAL CONCERNS ARE ASSESSED / TREATED

If possible, get patient alone to discuss questions with a Social Worker or medical professional present.

- Have you ever been forced to do work you didn't want to do?
- Have you ever been forced to have sex to pay off a debt?
- Has anyone lied to you about the type of work you would be doing?
- Does anyone hold your identity documents (i.e. driver's license/passport) for you? Why?
- Have physical abuse or threats from your employer made you fearful to leave your job?
- Were you ever threatened with deportation or jail if you tried to leave your situation?

For a more comprehensive list, consult **Polaris Project's Generic Trafficking Assessment**

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IF YES TO ANY OF THE ABOVE QUESTIONS

Call National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) Hotline

and/or visit The Ohio Domestic Violence Network: <https://www.odvn.org/find-help/>.



1-888-373-7888

(Available 24/7 in 200 languages)

Ask for assistance with assessment questions and next steps. Indicate which questions you used from above.
Note that you cannot include patient information without consent.



IF NO TO ABOVE QUESTIONS

Consider providing a list of community resources specific to the individual's needs.

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ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL DANGER

Ask the Hotline to assist in assessing level of danger.

Be vigilant of immediate environment—who is watching, calling, etc.

Questions to Consider:

- Is the trafficker present? (i.e. in the waiting room/outside)
- What will happen if the patient does not return to the trafficker?
- Does the patient believe they or a family member is in danger?
- Is the patient a minor?



NOT PERCEIVED AS TRAFFICKING SITUATION

Consider providing a list of community resources specific to the individual's needs.

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IF YES TO ANY OF THE ABOVE QUESTIONS AND YOU PERCEIVE DANGER

The Hotline can assist in determining next steps.

You may need to involve law enforcement for victim safety.

The Hotline can assist in determining appropriate, sensitive law enforcement contacts.



NO PERCEIVED DANGER

The Hotline can help determine appropriate next steps/referrals.

The Hotline may not have your local resources, so use what you know as well.