she can beat domestic violence
but she can’t do it alone...

“ You
know they’re
 gonna ask and
they’re gonna
judge because they
do. You’re back in
again. They’ve got
all your records. It
was like they were
there just to stitch
you up and send
you home.”

SURVIVOR OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON HER ID EXPERIENCE

Did you know?

1 in 5 women presenting to emergency departments are victims of domestic violence.¹

Nurses are on the ‘front line’ when it comes to providing care for these women.²

Sadly, it has been continually shown that nurses often fail in their duty of care to victims of domestic violence.³

Institutional barriers⁴, communication difficulties⁵, lack of knowledge⁶, personal beliefs⁷, cultural values⁸ and time constraints⁹ all impact on a nurse’s ability to provide holistic and effective care.

What can you do to help?

1. Challenge yourself...

Be a reflective practitioner and examine your own attitudes towards domestic violence.

Are personal biases affecting your ability to provide care?

2. Learn...

Persuade your organisation to address staff deficits in knowledge about domestic violence.

Where are the gaps in your knowledge?

3. Communicate...

Talk with your patients. Research demonstrates domestic violence victims prefer to be asked about their situation rather than have to initiate the discussion themselves.¹⁰

Is your communication effective?

4. Engage...

Engage with your organisation about current detection and management of domestic violence issues.

What improvements could be made to current practice?

Nurses CAN make a difference

Survivors.

References.


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