Medical Assessment Tool | Polaris Project

Signs to Look Out For Patient is reluctant to explain or has inconsistencies when asked about his/her injury Patient is not aware of his/her location (i.e. what city or state he/she is in) Patient has someone speaking for him/her Patient shows signs of physical or sexual abuse, medical neglect, untreated STIs and/or torture Patient exhibits fear, anxiety, depression, submission, tension, nervousness and/or avoids eye contact Patient is under 18 and is engaging in commercial sex or trading sex for something of value Patient has an unusually high number of sexual partners for his/her age For a more comprehensive list, consult Polaris Project's Potential Red Flags and Indicators Document First Response Attend to medical needs and treatment – if patient is admitted follow same protocol. Once medical concerns are assessed / treated If possible get patient alone to discuss questions with a social worker or medical professional. 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? 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? Has anyone lied to you about the type of work you would be doing? 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 YES to any of the above questions: NO to above questions: Call National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) Refer to social services as applicable. Hotline 1-888-3737-888 (24/7 and access to 170 languages) Ask for assistance with assessment questions and next steps. Indicate which questions you used from above. **Not Perceived as Trafficking Situation** Refer to social services as applicable. **Assessment of Potential Danger** Ask the Hotline to assist in assessing level of danger. Be vigilant of immediate environment – who is watching, calling, etc. No Perceived Danger **Ouestions to Consider:** Is the trafficker present? (i.e. in the waiting room/outside) The Hotline can help determine appropriate What will happen if the patient does not return to the trafficker? next steps /referrals. Does the patient believe he/she or a family member is in danger? Is the patient a minor? Resources **Perceived Danger** The Hotline may not have your The Hotline can assist in determining next steps. You may need to involve law local resources in their database so enforcement for victim safety. The Hotline can assist in determining use what you know as well. appropriate, sensitive law enforcement contacts.

This publication was made possible in part through Grant Number 90XR0012/02 from the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division, Office of Refugee Resettlement, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division, Office of Refugee Resettlement, or HHS.

