

Addressing Past Sexual Assault in Clinical Settings E-Learning Program

Information

The online curriculum, Addressing Past Sexual Assault in Clinical Settings was developed by Robin Mason, PhD, Janice Du Mont, PhD and Sheila Macdonald, RN of Women's College Hospital in consultation with a provincial expert panel and specific content experts. Funding for this initiative was provided by the province of Ontario through the Ontario Women's Directorate and is made available to Ontario residents free of charge.

Under the terms of the contract with the province we have agreed to evaluate the curriculum for its ability to improve health care providers' knowledge of and sense of competency in seeing patients who may have experienced past sexual assault. The intended audience for this training and the evaluation includes physicians, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, massage therapists, midwives, radiation technologists, those working in long term care settings, as well as other allied health professionals.

If you are interested in accessing the curriculum, you must first complete the nine demographic questions and short pre-test. Completing the demographic form and pre-test will take less than five minutes. You should allow about 45 minutes to complete the curriculum itself. Before exiting the program you will be asked to complete the short post-test. This will also take less than five minutes. You should therefore plan on approximately one hour to complete all elements of this program.

The pre-test/post-test have been developed so that we can learn whether or not the online curriculum is effective in meeting our goal of improving health care providers' knowledge about past sexual assault and their sense of competency in caring for patients who may have experienced past sexual assault. You can choose to exit the program at any time by closing the browser. If you choose to exit the program before completing it or the post-test, data from the demographic form and pre-test may still be included in future analyses.

All data will be kept in a secure location and your identity will be kept confidential. The email address and password you create in developing your account will be kept separate from the demographic form and pre/post test results. Only Dr. Mason will have access to the list of users. Your email address will be removed prior to any analyses. Analyses will be conducted using these dis-identified forms. Your participation in the program, demographic form and pre-test/post-test results will not be shared with any institution or employer.

There are no known risks to participating in the study or completing the curriculum. Potential benefits include increased knowledge and sense of competence in addressing past sexual assault with your patients/clients.

Please read the confidentiality and consent forms below before proceeding.

Confidentiality Statement

Data collected from the pre and post test survey will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of this online training program. Data will be stored in a secured facility and administered via an encrypted connection. Only Dr. Mason and the programmers will have access to the list of participants. Before any analyses are completed, personal identifiers including email addresses will be removed; team members will have access to

the data minus personal identifiers. This means, no personally identifying information will be used in the analyses, or any presentations, or publications based on this data. Individual pre/post test results will not be shared with the province (the funder), any organization, or individual.

Should you have any questions about the online curriculum or study, please feel free to contact the project lead, Dr. Robin Mason at robin.mason@wchospital.ca.

If you have any questions about the conduct of the study and would like to speak with someone outside the research team please contact Women's College Hospital's Research Ethics Board Coordinator, Melissa Sidhu at 416-351-3732 ext. 2723. The ethics board can further explain any ethical issues concerning this study.

Consent Statement

I understand that the online curriculum, *Addressing Past Sexual Assault in Clinical Settings*, has been made available free of charge and that evaluating the curriculum is important to the funders and developers of the program. To assist with this evaluation, I understand that I will be asked to complete a short demographic form and pre-test focused on knowledge of and attitudes towards past sexual assault and that these must be completed before I can access the curriculum. I further understand that I am being asked to complete a post-test at the end of the training. It is clear to me that the responses I provide on the pre-test and the post-test may be used for research purposes. I understand that should I choose to exit the program (curriculum) before completing it or the post-test that data related to me will not be removed. I understand that all data will be housed in a secure location accessed through an encrypted connection and that only the programmers and Dr. Mason will have access to the complete list of participants. It is clear to me that prior to analyses, my personal information including my email address will be removed by either Dr. Mason or the programmers and further that my responses will be aggregated (grouped together) with all other responses. I understand that I will not be identifiable in any presentation or publication that may result from this study and that my individual results will not be shared with any organization or individual. I understand that there are no known risks to participating in the study or completing the curriculum and that potential benefits include my increased knowledge and sense of competence in addressing past sexual assault with my patients/clients.

Completion of the questionnaire will be understood as indicative of consent.