Human Trafficking: What Residents Need to Know
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Background
- Human trafficking (HT), the fastest growing criminal industry in the world, affects 12.3 million people worldwide, 1.2 million of which are children.
- Although an estimated 28% of HT victims were seen by a healthcare provider during their captivity, none were rescued.
- Of the 101 victims of HT identified in Kentucky in 2014, 44 were trafficked as children, raising the importance of pediatric residents being equipped with the knowledge and tools to appropriately handle a potential HT victim.
- Very few residency programs offer formal training for the recognition, treatment and rescue of child HT victims.

Objectives
Objectives of this study include: 1) Assess resident exposure to HT & confidence in recognizing a victim of HT; 2) Create a curriculum for residents to raise awareness and increase knowledge of HT, in order to aid in recognition and rescue of a potential victim, and; 3) Provide residents with local and national resources on HT.

Methods
- An educational module was developed using current evidence in the field of HT.
- Pre- and post-tests were distributed via survey monkey: 10 knowledge-based questions and 2 questions addressing exposure to HT and confidence in identifying a victim.
- The module was presented during a Global Health monthly seminar and via Live Stream.
- The following objectives were addressed in the module:
  - Definition of human trafficking
  - Current federal & state laws on HT
  - International, domestic, & local prevalence of HT
  - Identification of common characteristics of trafficker & victim
  - Health implications and the role of the health care provider
  - National & local resources
  - Overview of proposed protocol for Kosair Children’s Hospital
- Pre- and post-test results were compared to evaluate effectiveness in improving resident knowledge and comfort level on the presented topic.
- Pre- and post-test results (% correct) were compared with a paired t-test to evaluate the effectiveness of this curriculum in improving resident knowledge.
- Wilcoxon signed-rank test was used to compare median exposure to the topic and comfort with via identification pre post-intervention.
- Chi square test was used to compare level of training to exposure on the topic and test results (% correct) were compared with a paired t-test to evaluate the effectiveness of this curriculum in improving resident knowledge.

Conclusions
- The child HT educational curriculum was very effective in improving knowledge, awareness, and confidence about this topic among pediatric residents.
- Pediatric residents likely encounter unrecognized victims of HT in their clinical practice.
- A structured curriculum is helpful in improving knowledge and raising resident awareness of child HT.

References

At Risk for HT
- Poverty
- History-sexual-physical abuse
- Learning disability
- Low self esteem
- Homeless youth/youth in foster system

Common locations of HT victims
- Exotic dancers, strip clubs
- Craigslist, Backpage.com, newspapers
- Spas, massage or nail parlors, models
- Street prostitution, truck stops, brothels, escort

Human Trafficking Protocol - KCH
- S - SEE or SPOT
- A - ALERT or ACTIVATE
- F - FOLLOW - Through
- E - ENGAGE and EXAMINE

Red Flags: History
- Inconsistent story
- Runaway history, unaware of current location
- Inappropriate or provocative clothing
- Excess cash, hotel keys
- Presence of controlling individual
- Lack of PCP, lack of insurance
- Withdrawn, afraid, poor eye contact
- Vague symptoms, delayed care
- Multiple STIs, abortions, pregnancies

Red Flags: Physical Exam
- Signs of physical abuse
- Poor dentition
- Multiple scars
- Genital injuries, bruising
- “Branding”
- Prolonged, untreated infections
- Drug and/or EIDH abuse
- Vaginal bleeding, discharge, dysuria

National & Local Resources
1. National HT Hotline: 1-888-373-7888
2. Rescue and Restore KY http://www.rescueandrestoreky.org
3. Catholic Charities of Louisville 502-974-4847
4. Polaris Project: polarisproject.org