

# THE HEALTH IMPACTS of intimate partner violence

HEADACHES  
TRAUMATIC  
BRAIN INJURY

MENTAL HEALTH  
anxiety, depression,  
PTSD

DENTAL ISSUES

ALCOHOL AND  
SUBSTANCE  
USE/MISUSE

NON-VISIBLE  
IMPACTS OF  
STRANGULATION  
pain, trouble  
swallowing, raspy  
voice, headaches

HEART  
ISSUES

BURNS

INJURIES  
in various  
states of  
healing

ULCERS

DIGESTIVE  
ISSUES

For all  
patients,  
remember  
to SCREEN,  
DOCUMENT,  
REFER

BITE  
MARKS

STI'S

IPV IS MORE than  
black eyes, broken  
noses and busted lips.

UNINTENDED  
PREGNANCY  
POOR  
PREGNANCY  
OUTCOMES

CHRONIC  
ACHES AND  
PAINS

**MARYLAND HEALTH CARE  
COALITION** *Against Domestic Violence*

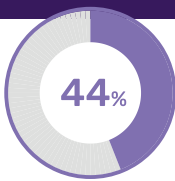
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# What HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT Intimate Partner Violence!



“In a femicide study, 96% of the women that were killed never sought out domestic violence services, **BUT 44% HAD VISITED AN ER...** within the preceding 2 years.”

## IPV CAN LEAD TO HOMICIDE OR SUICIDE

### mental health

Women who have experienced intimate partner violence were almost twice as likely to experience depression and problem drinking behaviors.

### HEART ISSUES

IPV is linked to cardiovascular disease factors such as diabetes, mellitus and hypertension in women.



### Pregnancy

IPV increases the likelihood of miscarriage, stillbirth, pre-term delivery and low birth weight babies. Studies have showed that women who experienced IPV were **16% more likely to suffer a miscarriage and 41% more likely to have a pre-term birth.**

### STI'S

A WHO study on the health burden associated with violence against women found that women who had been physically or sexually abused were 1.5 times more likely to have a sexually transmitted infection and, in some regions, HIV.

### STRANGULATION

Up to 68% of women experiencing IPV will experience near-fatal strangulation by their partner. Often under-assessed by patient advocates and healthcare professionals, strangulation can lead to injury, miscarriage, stroke, brain damage and death.

### Traumatic Brain Injury



Traumatic brain injury, or TBI, affects how the brain works and is a major cause of death and disability. Victims of IPV are at a greater risk for getting a TBI or having worse health outcomes after the injury.

### INCREASED HEALTHCARE UTILIZATION

Individuals with exposure to IPV have overall higher health services utilization. Inpatient and outpatient psychosocial visits, alcohol treatment, homeless services, primary care visits, emergency department visits and specialty visits contribute to higher health care costs.

**HEALTH IMPACTS OF IPV** can also include headaches, pain syndromes (back pain, abdominal pain, chronic pelvic pain), gastrointestinal disorders, limited mobility and poor overall health.