# TO ASK FOR HELP

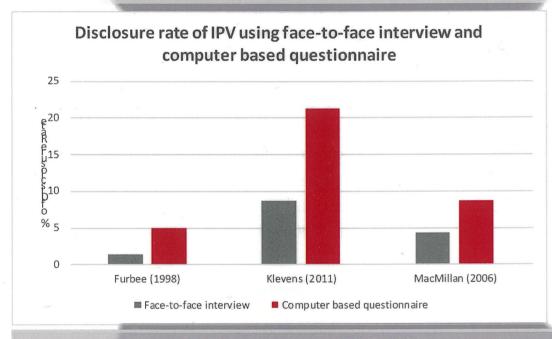
# INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

What is the most effective screening method for intimate partner violence in a healthcare setting?

By Manurere Kiriona-Devonshire

## **INTRODUCTION**

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious and prevalent issue here in Aotearoa. Healthcare professionals are in an ideal position to support and assist victims of IPV as they engage with most of the population who seek healthcare (Ministry of Health, 2016). The Ministry of Health recommend the screening of all women aged 16 years and older via face-to-face interview (Fanslow & Kelly, 2016). I have researched other methods of screening for IPV such as self-administered and computer based questionnaires to see what method had highest IPV disclosure rates and what method was most preferred by women.



#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Conduct further research in Aotearoa and trial the self-administered and computer based questionnaires in healthcare settings such as GP practice to see whether the self-administered methods of screening are more effective and gain higher disclosure rates compared to the current method.

# WOMEN PREFER SELF-ADMINISTERED METHODS

O'Dohetry et al. (2015) found that the self-administered methods were significantly preferred over disclosing directly to a healthcare professional. Women found disclosing via self-administered methods was more private and less risky. Many women expressed that the questions were more straight forward and easier to answer as they didn't have to explain themselves. The thought of disclosing possible IPV experiences with a healthcare professional was intimidating.

## **FINDINGS**

- Face-to-face interviews were compared with self-administered questionnaires in three randomised trials conducted by Chen (2007), MacMillan (2006) and Kataoka (2010). Results showed that the disclosure rate of intimate partner violence was significantly higher in the self-administered questionnaires in comparison to the in-person interview. Similar findings were found by Hussain et al. (2015) were women were 15-42% less likely to disclose of intimate partner violence during a in person interview.
- ⇒ When face-to-face screening was compared with computer based questionnaires, the disclosure rate of intimate partner violence was two and a half times higher in the computer based questionnaire (Klevens, 2011). Similar results were found by Hussain et al. (2015) were women were 37% less likely to disclose intimate partner violence during a in person interview

### CONCLUSION

Research results demonstrate that self-administered and computer based questionnaires are more effective at screening for intimate partner violence as they receive higher disclosure rates. By utilising self-administered methods as a tool for screening, there will hopefully be higher disclosure rates and therefore more women receiving support.

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Kataoka, Y. Yaju, Y. Eto, H., & Horiuchi, S. (2010). Self-administered questionnaire versus interview as a screening method for intimate partner violence in the prenatal setting in Japan: A randomised controlled trial. BMC Pregnancy And Childbirth, 10(1). http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/1471-2393-10-84

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MacMillan, H. (2006). Approaches to Screening for Intimate Partner Violence in Health Care Settings. JAMA, 296(5), 530. http://dx.doi.org/10.1001/jama.296.5.530

Ministry of Health. (2016). Family Violence Assessment and Intervention Guideline: Child abuse and intimate partner violence. Ministry of Health NZ. Retrieved from https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/family-violence-assessment-and-intervention-guideline-child-abuse-and-intimate-partner-violence

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PICOT category	Information relating to	Explanation
	question	(
Patient/population	Adult women aged 16 years and older.	This is the current recommended group for screening for intimate partner violence in Aotearoa.
Intervention/indicator	Self-administered and computer based questionnaire.	I will be looking at articles that have compared the use of different methods of administration for intimate partner violence screening. I am interested seeing what method is more effective in gaining disclosure, seeing how women and healthcare providers perceive these methods and how they compare to face-to-face screening.
Comparison/control	Face-to-face screening of inti- mate partner violence	I want to look at the effective- ness of the current screening method for intimate partner vio- lence. I am also interested in as- sessing how patients and healthcare providers perceive the current method of screening.
Outcome	Increase disclosure rate of inti- mate partner violence in all healthcare settings	I am interested in finding out what screening method for inti- mate partner violence receives the highest disclosure rates.
Time	N/A	N/A

## Rationale

Intimate partner violence is a serious and prevalent issue here is Aotearoa with only 20% of incidents being reported to authorities. Police attend a family violence incident every five minutes, visiting 105,000 incidents per year (Leask, 2017). I decided to research "What is the most effective screening method for intimate partner violence in a healthcare setting?" where I found that many women preferred self-administered methods over the current method which is via face-to-face interview. I believe that screening patients is the first step in providing support to patients and their whanau. By utilising effective screening methods in healthcare settings, the rate of disclosure will with any luck increase and healthcare providers such as nurses will be able to support our patients who are affected.

According to Rowe and Ilic (2009), posters are an excellent and effective way to convey information. Posters provide a snap-shot of the topic of interest including information that is deemed most important. Combining the poster with the presence of the author can facilitate discussion between the author and audience. Furthermore, this process can be more engaging and promote active learning. Visual appeal has also been cited as being more influential than subject content were it was found that imagery is most likely to draw viewers attention. This poster can be displayed online or in areas were healthcare professionals are present in the hope that the self-administered methods could be trialled as they have proved very effective in my literature review.

#### References

Leask, A. (2017). Family violence: 525,000 New Zealanders harmed every year. NZ Herald. Retrieved from http://www.nzherald.co.nz/family-violence/news/article.cfm? c\_id=178&objectid=11634543

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