

## BACKGROUND

- Sexual Assault (SA) is a pervasive issue that impacts over 460,000 people in the US annually.<sup>1</sup>
- 94% of SA victims have symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) after their assault.<sup>1</sup>
- To ensure that all students can have the tools and experience to properly treat SA patients in an empathetic and non-traumatizing manner, a hands on program will be developed to teach second year medical students (M2s) about SA treatment and forensic collection.

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Despite these alarming statistics, medical students at the Brody School of Medicine (BSOM) are not trained to properly treat patients who have experienced SA in a trauma informed manner (TIM).
- Due to the widespread nature of SA in the US, students should be prepared to conduct forensic collections on SA patients and collect a pertinent medical history on patients in a TIM.<sup>2</sup>



## METHODS

- This program will be structured similarly to a required clinical practice session that BSOM routinely implements.
  - These clinical practice sessions consist of an hour long didactic session about a particular topic.
  - Students will then practice their interviewing skills on a standardized patient, focusing on the topic of the didactic session.
  - Students will also practice a physical exam centered on the topic discussed.
- This program will have an hour long didactic session about SA, the proper course of treatment for these patients, and how to conduct a forensic collection.
- Students will use what they have learned in their didactic session to guide their trauma informed care (TIC) approach to taking a patient interview and collecting a forensic kit a low fidelity pelvic model.
- This study will use a mixed methods design to determine student knowledge and comfort level surrounding TIC and SA.



## EVALUATION PLAN

- Quantitative Evaluation:**
- Before attending the session, students will complete a pre-test assessing their current knowledge about SA, TIC, and forensic collection.
  - After successful completion of this required session, students will take the same test to determine if the intervention was successful in teaching these topics.
- Qualitative Evaluation:**
- Before attending the session, students will complete a likert scale test that examines student comfort with the topic of SA, TIC, and forensic collection.
  - After successful completion of this required session, students will take the same likert scale test to determine if the intervention changed student's perception on the listed topics.

## POTENTIAL IMPACT

- This program has the potential to bring awareness to the ubiquity of SA and the need for TIC for SA patients.
- It will allow students to practice skills used in SA treatment in a safe environment with instructor feedback, empowering students to become better informed to treat SA patients.
- By completing this program, future doctors should be able to treat patients in a TIM.<sup>3</sup>
- Proper training, knowledge of procedure, and TIC can place patients at more ease and potentially reduce the risk of re-traumatization.



## REFERENCES

1. "Victims of Sexual Violence: Statistics." RAINN, [www.rainn.org/statistics/victims-sexual-violence](http://www.rainn.org/statistics/victims-sexual-violence).
2. Gore, D. J., Prusky, M., Solomon, C. J. E., Tracy, K., Longcoy, J., Rodriguez, J., & Kent, P. (2021). Creation of a Medical Student Training to Improve Comfort Providing Trauma-Informed Care to Sexual Assault Survivors. MedEdPORTAL : the journal of teaching and learning resources, 17, 11140. [https://doi.org/10.15766/mep\\_2374-8265.11140](https://doi.org/10.15766/mep_2374-8265.11140)
3. Prusky, M. A., Solomon, C. J. E., Tracy, K. P., Shah, S. C., Rodriguez, J., Balata, M., York, S. L., & Rumoro, D. P. (2023). Training to Enhance the Knowledge and Comfort Level of Emergency Physicians Providing Care for Survivors of Sexual Assault. The Journal of continuing education in the health professions, 43(1), e9–e12. <https://doi.org/10.1097/CEH.0000000000000452>