

THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON HEALTH

DV LEADS TO ADVERSE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES



PHYSICAL AND CHRONIC

SHORT-TERM

bruises, fractures & injuries

LONG-TERM

chronic pain, headaches, fatigue, immune, endocrine & gastrointestinal disorders

2x the risk of asthma, irritable bowel syndrome & diabetes



MENTAL HEALTH

DV SURVIVORS ARE:

3x MORE LIKELY TO HAVE A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION

DEPRESSION

is as high as

70%

PTSD

is as high as

84%



HEALTH RISK BEHAVIORS

DV SURVIVORS ARE:

6x more likely to become dependent on drugs or alcohol

2x more likely to smoke, become obese, and practice sexual risk behaviors, increasing risk for STDs and HIV



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

DV INCREASES RISK FOR:

Unintended pregnancies and poor pregnancy & birth outcomes



THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

DV BURDENS THE HEALTH SYSTEM

The MEDICAL COST

BURDEN from DV in

the first year after

victimization is as high as

\$7 BILLION

HEALTH CARE

UTILIZATION &

COSTS for abused

women are up to

and stay higher for up to 5 years

after victimization

20% HIGHER

CHILDREN WHO WITNESS ABUSE ARE

3x more likely to use mental health services, and are more likely to use all health care services

THIS IS ONLY PART OF THE PICTURE.

DV OFTEN GOES UNDIAGNOSED & UNDISCLOSED.



DV IS HIGHLY PREVALENT



1 IN 3 WOMEN

WILL EXPERIENCE DV IN HER LIFETIME.

DV affects over **12 MILLION** Americans every year,

DISPROPORTIONATELY YOUNG, LOW-INCOME WOMEN OF COLOR AND LGBTQ+ POPULATIONS.

DV'S IMPACT EXTENDS BEYOND HEALTH

DV REDUCES **QUALITY OF LIFE & LIFETIME POTENTIAL**, AND LEADS TO:

↓ Loss of productivity and wages from missing work

↑ Need for housing services

↑ Risk for future victimization

WITNESSING ABUSE AS A CHILD RAISES RISK FOR ADULT VICTIMIZATION & PERPETRATION.

DV IS A CRITICAL HEALTH ISSUE. IT'S TIME TO LEVERAGE THE SHIFTING HEALTH POLICY LANDSCAPE AND FOCUS ATTENTION AND RESOURCES ON DV.



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