# Assessing the needs of Ob/Gyn clinicians working with patients with sexual trauma histories

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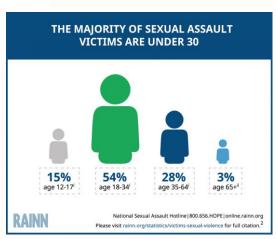
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#### **BACKGROUND**

Over 40% of US women have experienced some form of sexual violence in their lifetime; 1 in 6 report completed or attempted rape







UDY

- Sexual trauma is associated with mental health (e.g., PTSD) and Ob/Gyn problems (e.g., preterm delivery, pelvic pain, perinatal depression, dyspareunia)
- Some people with sexual trauma histories access mental/medical healthcare more often, others avoid preventive health examinations
- Some patients experience significant distress during visits, have difficulty completing pelvic exams, or outright refuse to do them
- While ACOG guidelines emphasize the importance of routine screening for sexual trauma history, many Ob/Gyn clinicians report a lack of formal training or confidence in screening

#### **OBJECTIVES**

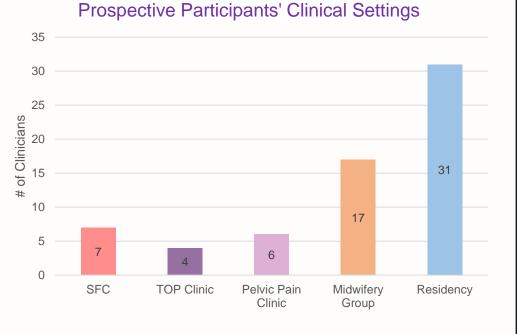
- Understand URMC Ob/Gyn clinicians' experiences working with patients with sexual trauma histories
- Identify helpful resources for their practice

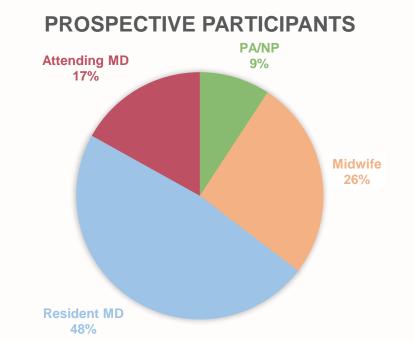
#### **SURVEY DEVELOPMENT**

- Mixed methods needs assessment survey developed based on the literature
- Examples of questions:
  - ✓ How frequently do you encounter patients with sexual trauma histories?
  - ✓ How prepared do you feel to respond to patients with sexual trauma histories?
  - ✓ How often do you observe physical/emotional reactions by patients during their visits?
  - What do you find most rewarding and most challenging working with patients with sexual trauma histories?
  - What resources (e.g., trainings, support groups, behavioral health consultants), if any, would be helpful for your practice?
- Survey piloted for feedback
  - ✓ Women's Behavioral Health Service (WBHS) clinical team
  - √ Three APPs in women's health
- Project introduction, survey questions, and references uploaded to REDCap
- Practice directors contacted via e-mail; invited to participate and encourage team members to complete the survey

#### **PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS**

- Ob/Gyn clinical settings recruited to participate:
  - Pelvic Pain Clinic
  - ✓ Strong Fertility Center
  - ✓ Termination of Pregnancy Clinic
  - Ob/Gyn Residency Program
  - ✓ Midwifery Group
- \* Rationales for these settings:
  - Frequency of sexual trauma among their patient populations
  - ✓ Invasiveness of procedures/exams
  - Residents rotate through multiple clinics during their training
  - Midwives offer comprehensive patient-centered care, bring a unique perspective







### **NEXT STEPS**

- ❖ We had intended to conduct surveys via email. In the initial surge of COVID-19 pandemic planning, we anticipated that participants' inboxes would be overburdened and deferred the survey launch
- Survey distribution will be reevaluated in July 2020
- \* Following data collection, we will analyze the results using quantitative and qualitative methods. Participants' responses will be de-identified and remain confidential
- Findings will guide program development to support clinicians and assist them with providing patient-centered, trauma-informed care

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We thank the members of the WBHS team, and the clinicians within WHP and UOG who provided their feedback and support during the creation of the survey. For their interest and willingness to participate in this project, we thank the leaders of the URMC Ob/Gyn clinics and residency program.

