How to Refer a Gender-based Violence (GBV) Case
Objectives

■ You will have a basic understanding of what GBV is.

■ You will have a basic understanding of what is your role and how to do a safe referral GBV survivors

■ You will know the available GBV services.

■ You will also know GBV key messages related to COVID-19
Session 1. What is Gender Based Violence (GBV)?
Definition of Gender based violence

Gender-based violence is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person’s will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. It includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and other deprivations of liberty. These acts can occur in public or in private.

Key messages

■ GBV is caused by gender inequality, the abuse of power and disregard of human rights.

■ Anyone can experience GBV including men and boys but females are disproportionately affected because of gender inequality and power imbalance between male and female.

■ GBV is not only rape/sexual violence but includes a different forms of violence such as physical and emotional violence.

■ GBV survivors need various services to overcome the negative consequences of GBV. The needs of GBV survivors are not always same even if the survivors experienced same form of violence.

■ COVID-19 lockdowns are bringing a rise in domestic violence, and homes cannot be assumed as safe zones for many women and girls.

“I urge all governments to put women’s safety first as they respond to the COVID-19 pandemic”

António Guterres, UN Secretary-General
Session 2. GBV referral pathway and roles of a Non GBV specialist
What is the GBV referral pathway?

A flexible mechanism that safely links survivors to supportive and competent services in a timely way.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevention of HIV</th>
<th>The risk of HIV can be reduced if a survivor is referred for medical care to receive HIV post-exposure prophylaxis within 3 days (72 hours)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prevention of Pregnancy</td>
<td>The risk of unwanted pregnancy can be reduced if a survivor is referred for medical care to receive emergency contraception within 5 days (120 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence Collection</td>
<td>If the survivor requests evidence collection for legal purposes, it is important that the medical examination be arranged and recorded as soon as possible (48 hours).</td>
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Remember! Urgent Safety Referral

• Consider if the perpetrator or anyone else is a present and urgent threat to the survivor and/or yourself

• Call the security actor/Safe Shelter actor if there is an urgent physical threat to the survivor and/or yourself
Session 3. How to respond to a disclosure of GBV?
Frontline Workers

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- All actors are responsible for knowing the GBV referral pathways and the services available where they work.

- Provide a listening ear, free of judgement,

- Provide accurate, up-to-date information on available services and let the survivor make their own choices.

- All survivors have different needs.

- Apply the guiding principles.
Guiding Principles - Safe referrals of GBV Survivors

**RESPECT**

All actions taken are guided by respect for the choice, wishes, rights and dignity of the survivor.

**SAFETY**

The safety and security of the survivor is the number of priority for all actors.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

People have the right to choose to whom they will or not tell their story. CONFIDENTIALITY means not sharing any information at any time to anyone without permission.

**NON DISCRIMINATION**

Provide equal and faire treatment to anyone in need of help.

**Best interest of the child**

Decisions and actions affecting the child should reflect what is best for the safety, well-being and development of that particular child.
Steps to respond to a direct disclosure of GBV

**Look**
- Address urgent medical and safety needs
- Immediate safety – safe place? Comfortable talking to you?

**Listen**
- Listen to people and help them to feel calm
- Do not ask details about GBV
- Ask about people’s needs and concerns

**Link**
- Provide the survivor the information of available services on the GBV Referral pathway.
- Refer the survivor if s/he asked you to refer her to a specific services.
- If requested by the survivor, do physically accompany him/her to the service point
Key messages

■ Your roles are:
  ➢ to provide a listening ear, free of judgement, to the survivor who disclosed GBV experience to you; and
  ➢ to provide accurate, up-to-date information on available services and let the survivor make their own choices.

■ When you respond to a disclosure of GBV experience, make sure that you apply guiding principles: safety, respect, non-discrimination, confidentiality and best interest of the child (in case of children only).

■ Only survivors can decide when, how and to whom s/he disclose her/his GBV experience. NEVER actively look for GBV survivors.
Session 4. Dos and Don’ts - practices
DOs and DON’Ts of Practice

You will read a series of statements about your role and responsibilities.

If you **DISAGREE** with the statement, stand.

If you **AGREE** with the statement, remain seated.
A woman discloses intimate partner violence and asks for your help. You offer to speak with her and her husband to resolve the conflict.

NEVER mediate and NEVER speak with the husband in cases of intimate partner violence. Validate the woman’s feelings and inform her of available women’s services, such as Safe Spaces, that you have mapped and are of sufficient quality. With her consent, offer to connect her to these services.
THANK YOU!!