



Keeping Adults Safe  
in Shropshire  
Network



Telford and Wrekin

Safeguarding  
PARTNERSHIP

# Joint Adult Safeguarding Event 2019: Domestic Abuse and Older People

Wednesday 20 November 2019  
Barnabas Centre, Shrewsbury

# New Hospital Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (HIDVA) Service

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# Objectives

- ▶ What is a HIDVA?
- ▶ Role of a HIDVA
- ▶ Why do we need a HIDVA?
- ▶ Quotes from staff
- ▶ How to refer
- ▶ Questions

# What is a HIDVA?

- ▶ Independent Domestic Violence Adviser based in a hospital or other health setting.
- ▶ HIDVAs are independent of statutory services.
- ▶ HIDVAs support high risk victims by providing advice and practical support including risk assessment, crisis intervention and safety planning.
- ▶ To provide immediate advice and support to victims of abuse who after assessment are not classed as high risk and refer them to alternative sources of support at WMWA.
- ▶ Signpost to other organisations dependant upon their needs.

# Role of a HIDVA

- ▶ We support both female and male victims of domestic abuse.
- ▶ Explain all options to the victim in order for them to make informed decisions and choices.
- ▶ Housing/children/financial/legal/separation.
- ▶ Risk assessment, safety planning and crisis intervention.
- ▶ Recognise high risk indicators.
- ▶ Prepare Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) Referrals.
- ▶ Raise awareness of HIDVAs with staff.
- ▶ To provide hospital staff with expert training so that they have the confidence to ask about domestic abuse.
- ▶ Support hospital staff who may be suffering from domestic abuse.

# Why do we need a HIDVA?

- ▶ £1.73bn - The cost of domestic abuse to health services.
- ▶ £176m - Estimated mental health costs.
- ▶ 1.9m people in the UK suffer some form of domestic abuse.
- ▶ 100,000 are at high risk of being murdered or seriously injured as a result of domestic abuse.
- ▶ 130,000+ children live in these homes.
- ▶ 51% of hospital victims have children in their homes
- ▶ 1 in 8 of all suicides and suicide attempts are due to domestic abuse. (Research by Sylvia Walby)
- ▶ 85% of victims sought help five times on average from professionals in the year before they got effective help to stop the abuse.
- ▶ 51,355 NHS staff are likely to have experienced domestic abuse in the past 12 months.
- ▶ The British Crime Survey found that 4 in 5 victims of domestic abuse don't tell the police.
- ▶ The British Crime Survey found that 486,720 victims experiencing partner abuse in the past year sought medical assistance.
- ▶ 9 out of 10 victims reported improvements in safety following an intervention by a HIDVA.

# Quotes from staff

“I don’t think that I would have admitted it was a domestic abuse situation. I just felt my ex was a nasty man. Then the HIDVA went through one of her questionnaires and I was on the border of being high risk. Quite shocking”

- Victim

“We do leave a lot of work to them... They do so much more with patients than we could ever dream of doing because of time. Their role is so important. I don’t know what we would do without them”

- A&E Consultant

“For something that’s quite complex and emotive subject, it is really nice to have a person available when we know we have concerns....Sometimes we have a hunch and we have somebody to say ‘Can I just run it past you?’”

- Hospital Midwife

# Princess Royal Hospital, Telford

- ▶ The Hospital IDVA is available:
- ▶ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- ▶ 08:00 - 16:00
  
- ▶ Phone: 07539 930630
  
- ▶ If the IDVA is unavailable, please use a secure NHS email account to send a referral to:
- ▶ [hidva@wmwa.cjsm.net](mailto:hidva@wmwa.cjsm.net)
- ▶ Alternatively please call West Mercia Women's Aid 24 hour helpline on: 0800 980 3331
- ▶ (We will require the patients name and SAFE contact details)



# Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Shrewsbury

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- ▶ Monday and Friday 08:00 - 14:00
- ▶ Contact: 07539 930640
  
- ▶ If the IDVA is unavailable, please use a secure NHS email account and send the referral to:
- ▶ [hidva@wmwa.cjsm.net](mailto:hidva@wmwa.cjsm.net)
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- ▶ (We will require the patients name and SAFE contact details)

Any questions?

