

WOMEN AND MEN INVOLVED IN PROSTITUTION

A history of sexual contact involving acceptance of payment, in any form, should be recorded on the lifetime sexual history page.

Details should also be recorded on the social history page in the GBV section.

Any client, male or female, disclosing involvement in prostitution, of any kind, should be Q'd to Karen Johnston and Dr Tamsin Groom for data collection purposes or follow up when required.

Women:

The currently preferred term for women involved in selling sex is “women involved in prostitution”, although it is very important to take the linguistic lead from the client with whatever term she is most comfortable. Many of those women may have significant social problems.

History:

A thorough history (including drug use) should be taken if at all possible, in a supportive manner, with due regard for the woman's own concerns and perceptions of any recent risk events.

An opportunity may be taken to explore the woman's own personal strategies for health & personal risk minimisation: offer help with a selection of condoms, lubricants and access to other supportive agencies. Offer regular sexual health checks.

Common problems experienced by women involved in prostitution include:

- Child care issues
- Housing/homelessness issues
- Addiction/substance abuse
- Mental health problems
- Violence at work
- Domestic abuse
- Legal issues
- Sexual abuse
- Isolation
- Trafficking

Sandyford Inclusion Team; “G3 Priority clinic” with Sandyford

The number of clients disclosing involvement in prostitution, during consultation, is disproportionately small considering the annual number of attendances to the service; the reason for this is unclear.

The advantages for client's disclosing involvement in prostitution are sexual health screening from appropriate site(s), BBV testing, access to vaccination for Hep B, emotional support, safety advice and addressing exiting prostitution. In a recent online survey men and women involved in indoor prostitution expressed a desire for a specialist service, similar to clinical service previously offered at The Base.

This nurse led clinic is advertised in all client toilets in Sandyford Central and Hubs. Clients can use tear off slip to be fast tracked at the walk in clinics or call, SIT secretary, 0141 211 8610, for an appointment. The NaSH tab for this clinic is G3 Priority Clinic.

The clinic is on Monday afternoons, 1-4pm and is specifically for men and women involved in **indoor** prostitution, e.g. flats, escorts, sauna, adult film.

Clients involved in street prostitution often have visible vulnerabilities such as addiction, mental health issues and often present with or on the advice of a support worker and should be fast tracked/triaged and seen in the urgent care clinic.

Investigations:

- Offer a full sexual health screen, and ensure cervical smears are up to date. Throat and rectal NAAT if relevant from the history.
- NB. BV (and TV in the most vulnerable women) is common, advice regarding vaginal hygiene/avoidance of douching should be given.
- Discuss Hepatitis C testing if there is a history of injecting drug use.
- Offer Twinrix® vaccination to protect against Hepatitis A & B.
- Discuss contraception, especially LARC as this aids compliance and ensures pregnancy is a positive choice.

Management:

As indicated by clinical diagnoses.

Involve Sexual Health Advisor wherever possible.

Offer help with a selection of condoms, lubricants and access to other supportive agencies. Offer regular sexual health checks.

Offer HIV Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PreP) if eligible

Offer contact details or referral to SIT G3 Priority Clinic at Sandyford Central, see above.

Female Clients involved in prostitution who wish support to look at alternatives to selling sex can be directed to Routes Out of Prostitution (0141 276 0737). (**See appendix**)

Men:

Men involved in prostitution are one of the hardest to reach and most vulnerable groups of men in Scotland. The health outcomes for this group of men are poor, with depression, suicidal ideation, attempted suicide, addiction, and sexual ill health including risk of exposure to HIV and other STI's frequently reported.

Such men tend to be very reluctant to disclose their practices for fear of a judgmental response. A caring, supportive approach is necessary before information will be disclosed. Do not assume that all such men identify as gay or bisexual, or that they only exchange sexual acts for payment with other men.

History:

Many of the men involved in prostitution will present with a drug and/or alcohol addiction and with mental health concerns, particularly if they are involved in street-based prostitution.

Again, this is an opportune time to explore the man's personal strategies to minimise the potentially negative health consequences of their involvement in prostitution and their strategies for maintaining their personal safety. There are still risks to the client's personal safety if they are involved in "escorting" and are unfamiliar with the premises where they are called to.

Remember to ask male clients if they have ever been paid to perform sexual acts, rather than only asking if they themselves ever pay to have sex.

Investigations:

Offer a full sexual health screen including throat and rectal NAAT if relevant from the history

Offer Hepatitis B and C testing.

Management:

As indicated by clinical diagnoses

Consider offer of HIV Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PreP) if eligible

Offer Hepatitis A & B vaccination

Consider offer of HPV vaccination if eligible

Involve Sexual Health Adviser wherever possible

Offer help with a selection of condoms, lubricants and access to other supportive agencies. Offer regular sexual health checks.

Offer contact details or referral to SIT G3 Priority Clinic at Sandyford Central, see above.

Agency	Services Provided	Contact Details
THRIVE NHS GG&C - Integrated into SCASS	Counselling for men who have Experienced childhood sexual abuse.	0141 211 6700
SRP choices	Counselling and support to reduce sexual harm including support to exit prostitution as required	Electronic referral via Referral page on NaSH Or via SCASS on 211 6700

Routes Out

Aim:

Crisis intervention and short term support to women involved in prostitution.
Evening drop in and outreach services to women involved in street prostitution offering harm reduction support including safety advice, condoms, personal alarms and link to day service

Address:

Eastgate Glasgow Community & Safety Services, 727 London Road Glasgow, G40 3AQ
9.00am - 5.00pm

Evening Drop in, The Base, 75 Robertson Street, Glasgow, G2 8QD (0141 276 0735)
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 9pm – 1am

Telephone:

0141 276 0737

<http://www.routesout.org/>

National Ugly Mugs Scheme

www.uknswp.org/um/

National Ugly Mugs (NUM) is a pioneering, national organisation which provides greater access to justice and protection for persons involved in prostitution who are often targeted by dangerous individuals but are frequently reluctant to report these incidents to the police.

It is a way of reporting concerns about purchasers anonymously and this information is passed on as intelligence to the Police.

An alternative would be reporting safety concerns via "Crime stoppers"