



Recognizing and Responding to Intimate Partner Violence in Clinical Encounters

Guidance and Resources from The VEGA Project

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (FULL)

Friday, November 4, 2022

8:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.



CSAM-SMCA
2022 Scientific Conference



The Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan have partnered to offer a **FREE** educational event for Saskatchewan physicians.
(This free event is being offered thanks to a generous sponsorship from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan)

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Delta Bessborough Hotel - Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

To register for this FREE event, please email prp@cps.sk.ca and ask to be registered for the VEGA session.



Substance use is a risk factor for intimate partner violence (IPV), both by perpetrators and for victims. In this three-hour course, attendees will gain a fuller understanding of the prevalence of IPV in Canada and its overlap with other forms of family violence, as well as signs, symptoms, risk and protective factors. Attendees will learn principles and strategies for trauma- and violence-informed care for clinical encounters with patients or clients affected by IPV. Attendees will also learn evidence-based approaches for safely recognizing and responding to IPV and children's exposure to IPV in clinical encounters. The course will include experiential activities to reinforce learning, including role play, videos for discussion and reflection questions.

Developed and delivered by McMaster University's [Violence, Evidence, Guidance and Action Project](#) — The VEGA Project — this course is a pan-Canadian, evidence-based guidance and education resource developed to assist healthcare and social service providers in recognizing and responding safely to family violence. Enhance your skills in assessing for IPV and confidence in supporting clients who disclose IPV. **Advance registration required, as attendance is limited to 40. A waiting list will be started once event capacity has been reached.**

Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the VEGA team developed these resources in collaboration with expert consultants and organizations, 22 national organizations and other stakeholders.

Learning Objectives

- Describe the prevalence of intimate partner violence (IPV) among the general Canadian population and those who use substances.
- Describe IPV's overlap with other forms of family violence, as well as its impact, risk and protective factors, signs, and symptoms.
- Understand principles and strategies for trauma- and violence-informed care for clinical encounters with patients or clients who have experienced exposure to IPV.
- Articulate and apply evidence-based approaches for safely recognizing and responding to IPV and children's exposure to IPV in clinical encounters.

Course Outline

- Brief epidemiology of family violence including child maltreatment and intimate partner violence (IPV); definitions, prevalence, risk and protective factors
- Discussion of relationship of IPV to substance use
- Introduction to VEGA (Violence, Evidence, Guidance, Action) Resources including modules on Creating Safety
- Discussion of trauma-informed and trauma- and violence-informed care
- IPV care pathway to assist healthcare providers in interacting with patients experiencing IPV
- Recognizing IPV including signs and symptoms
- Principles for safe inquiry about IPV including limits of confidentiality
- Principles for safe response to a disclosure of IPV
- Assessing risk of immediate danger
- Safety planning and strategies
- Determining appropriate resources and referrals
- Documentation
- Considering children's exposure to IPV
- Interactions with those at risk of and/or committing IPV

Facilitators

Dr. Harriet MacMillan - VEGA Project Lead, Distinguished University Professor, in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University, family violence researcher, pediatrician and psychiatrist at Hamilton Health Sciences Centre.

Dr. Melissa Kimber - Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, McMaster University

Dr. Anne Niec - Professor, Department of Pediatrics, McMaster University

