# CORE COMPETENCIES FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESPONSE IN HEALTH CARE AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS



	UNIVERSAL COMPETENCY TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH	Use a trauma- and survivor-informed, culturally responsive approach
•	COMPETENCY 1 NATURE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY	Understand the nature and epidemiology of trafficking.
	COMPETENCY 2 RISK	Evaluate and identify the risk of trafficking.
•	COMPETENCY 3 NEEDS EVALUATION	Evaluate the needs of individuals who have experienced trafficking or individuals who are at risk of trafficking.
	COMPETENCY 4 PATIENT-CENTERED CARE	Provide patient-centered care.
	COMPETENCY 5 LEGAL/ETHICAL STANDARDS	Use legal and ethical standards.
	COMPETENCY 6	Integrate trafficking prevention strategies

### **Human trafficking cases may be** encountered in all health care and behavioral health settings,

including private, general, outpatient, and specialist practices (e.g., pediatrician, endocrinologist, substance use). Individuals who have experienced trafficking seek not only emergency medical care but also care for long-term health issues. For this reason, all health care and behavioral health practitioners should be prepared to identify and respond to individuals who have experienced trafficking.

## **DISCLOSURE IS** NOT THE GOAL.

**PREVENTION** 

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SHOULD BE PART OF **ANY PUBLIC HEALTH** STRATEGY TO ADDRESS **HUMAN TRAFFICKING.** 

### Trauma-informed care involves recognizing that any person could have experienced trauma

into clinical practice and systems of care.

and this could be impacting their current decisions, actions and health behaviors. With this recognition, providers practicing a trauma-informed approach assess for stress/trauma without the goal of explicit disclosure, actively try not to re-traumatize patients, and educate and empower patients to build resiliency and mitigate the health effects of trauma.

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