AMWA PATH
PHYSICIANS AGAINST THE TRAFFICKING OF HUMANS

Human Trafficking Reporting Policies for Texas

SCAN ME

TEXAS IS A MANDATED REPORTER OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING*

National Policies

Federal law **does** currently mandate reporting by healthcare providers of suspected human trafficking of patients **UNDER 18** (as child abuse per Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act); no mandated reporting for 18 and over.

Sex trafficking*: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age*

Labor trafficking: *the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery*

Remember to consult with your patients about your concerns using trauma-informed care and respect patients' autonomy.

Doctors, nurses, and social workers are mandatory reporters of all violations of human rights. Providers must get patient permission to report or call if 18+; it is a violation of privacy rights to report without consent.

National Human Trafficking Hotline

Scan For: The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 and Jones Day: Human Trafficking and Health Care Providers: Legal Requirements for Reporting and Education

*State Policies

Under 18:
Texas **does mandate reporting** to the Department of Family and Protective Services and local or state law enforcement agency **within 48 hours** by all healthcare professionals. The reporter must refer the minor to the department for services or intervention.
Hotline: 1-800-252-5400 or https://www.txabusehotline.org/

18 and over:
Texas **only mandates the reporting** of **abuse of an adult that occurred while the adult was a child** to the Department of Families and Protective Services or local or state law enforcement if healthcare professionals believe in good faith that disclosure is necessary to protect the health and safety of another child. Abuse of vulnerable adults should also be reported (call 800-252-5400). All other reporting should only be done with either patient consent or per HIPPA Privacy Rule regulations, if concern for imminent harm.