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| --- | --- |
| Medical Referral  Medical referral for incidents of non-fatal strangulation and suspected brain injury | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Service referred to: [Insert name of medical service or department] | Date of referral: DD/MM/YY | | Client Information | | | Client Full Name: [Insert client name] | | | Client DOB: [Insert client DOB] | | | |
| **REASON FOR REFERRAL**  [Insert client name] is engaged with our service for [insert type of support] support. During our conversations she has reported experiencing:  pressure applied to her neck and/or breathing being restricted  suffered an injury to the head such as a hit or knock  This was a PICK ONE incident which occurred approximately [insert time] PICK ONE  Client reports the following **significant symptoms** of non-fatal strangulation (NFS) and acquired brain injury (ABI)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **How the injury occurred**  Repeated incidents of NFS  Significant force (lifted off the ground, shaken or hit)  Loss of bladder/bowel control during incident  Near or complete loss of consciousness  Memory loss  Neurological symptoms persisting more than 10 days after the incident  Physical signs and symptoms of NFS:  PICK ONE  PICK ONE  PICK ONE | **New or evolving neurological symptoms**  Feeling slow and foggy  Difficulty processing information, comprehending, or problem solving  Memory problems  Changes in mood:  PICK ONE  PICK ONE  Changes in sleep  PICK ONE  Muscle fatigue and/or limb weakness  Balance disturbance and/or poor coordination  Severe headaches and/or migraines  Changes in vision or sight  Light or noise sensitivity |   Referrer comments:   |  | | --- | | [Insert signs and symptoms experienced or observed since the incident, specifically highlighting how the incident has impacted the client’s day-to-day function.] | | |
| referral information | |
| In accordance with organisational protocols and clinical advice outlined in national and state-based heath guidelines for managing NFS and ABI, the client has reported one or more red flags that require medical assessment and potential referral to specialist and allied health services. Sources used to inform our protocols can be viewed below. | |
| **FUTURE CLIENT SUPPORT**  **Our service will continue to support the client through PICK ONE**  **Comments: [Insert other comments]** | |
| REFERRING ORGANISATION CONTACT details | |
| Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any further assistance. | |
| Referring Organisation: [Insert name of organisation] | Referrer Name: [Insert full name] |
| Referrer Position: [Insert position] | Signature: [Insert signature digital or by hand] |
| Phone No.: [Insert phone number] | Email: [Insert referrer email] |
|  | |
| **About Us**  [Insert Organisation/WHC name and services provided]  Women’s Health NSW is the peak body for 20 non-government community-based women’s health centres and special-purpose services operating in New South Wales. We are proactive on priority issues relevant to women’s health, advocating for improved health outcomes that allow women and girls to reach their full potential within a gender and culturally safe and healthy environment. WHNSW is an delivering a project as part of the NSW Department of Communities and Justice’s Sexual Violence Project Fund. Find more information about us here: <https://whnsw.asn.au/> | |
| **Sources**  Women’s Health NSW (2024): [It left no marks learning hub](https://itleftnomarks.com.au/)  Agency for Clinical Innovation (2022): [Managing non-fatal strangulation in the emergency department.](https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/750344/ACI-Non-fatal-strangulation-clinical-practice-guide.pdf)  The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (2022): [Abuse and violence: Working with our patients in general practice](https://www.racgp.org.au/getattachment/4ab6102c-67d9-4440-9398-a3ae759164ef/Abuse-and-violence-Working-with-our-patients-in-general-practice.aspx).  Australian Journal of General Practice (2022): [‘I thought I was About to Die’: Management of non-fatal strangulation in general practice](https://www1.racgp.org.au/getattachment/d0b73b93-f576-49ee-987a-3df6142e9ea8/Management-of-non-fatal-strangulation.aspx).  Women’s Legal Service NSW (2019): [GP Tool Kit: When she talks about violence.](https://www.wlsnsw.org.au/newly-updated-gp-toolkit/) | |