**Physical, Sexual, and Other Abuse**

National Midwifery Institute, Inc.

Study Group Coursework

*Syllabus*

Description:

This module explores physical sexual and other abuse in general and specifically related to midwifery care. It includes recommended reading materials in print and online, and asks students to complete short answer questions for assessment, long answer questions for deeper reflection, and learning activities/projects to deepen your hands-on direct application of key concepts.

Learning Objectives:

* Identify what physical abuse and sexual abuse may include.
* Identify other forms of abuse, including financial, emotional, and institutional abuse.
* Identify aspects of domestic violence.
* Identify the signs and symptoms of physical and sexual abuse.
* Understand who is at risk for physical or sexual abuse, and that it happens outside of those risk groups.
* Identify the generational chain of abuse that can continue the cycle of abuse.
* Review the legal obligations care providers face when encountering physical and sexual abuse.
* Review issues around confidentiality.
* Identify state laws regarding the arrest and prosecution of abusers in your area.
* Identify national and local community sources for responding to physical or sexual abuse.
* Identify the local rape crisis services in your area.
* Understand that having experienced abuse may impact a client’s emotional process and physical response during pregnancy, labor, birth and parenting.
* Create a referral list for clients who have experienced physical or sexual abuse.

Learning Activities:

* Research and read appropriate study sources, seeking out additional study sources where needed
* Complete short answer questions in attached module document for assessment
* Complete long answer questions for deeper reflection in attached module document for assessment
* Complete learning activities listed in attached module document for assessment
  + Create a list of recommended books and websites as a resource
  + Research in your own community and locate shelters
  + Identify the rape crisis center nearest you
  + Create a referral list for your clients dealing with their history of sexual and/or physical abuse
  + Research the laws in your state regarding the arrest and prosecution of abusers
  + Write about your process of reading the Peace Book
  + Read and write a review of “Trauma Stewardship”
* Submit work to Study Group Course Coordinator
* Reflect on feedback from Study Group Course Coordinator and re-submit work as needed

Study Sources (print):

The following texts are recommended for completion of this module. Use them to cross reference and build a more comprehensive understanding.

Using keywords from the Learning Objectives, search the index. Read those pages listed, and read the chapter in which they are found. Establish a context for the information so that you understand how other topics are related. In addition, read the chapter headings in the Table of Contents, and flip through each text to familiarize yourself with the content of chapters. As you work through Study Group modules, you will eventually read each text in its entirety.

* Holistic Midwifery, Vol. I, II, Frye
* Varney’s Midwifery
* Survivor Moms: Women’s Stories of Birthing, Mothering and Healing after Sexual Abuse, Sperlich & Seng
* The Peace Book, Diamond
* Trauma Stewardship, van Dernoot Lipsky

*Optional*

* When Survivors Give Birth, Simkin
* The Survivor’s Guide To Sex: How to Create Your Own Empowered Sexuality After Childhood Sexual Abuse, Haines
* Healing the Trauma of Abuse: A Woman’s Workbook, Copeland & Harris

Study Sources (online):

See NMI website Physical, Sexual, and Other Abuse module web resources section for current online study sources for this module.

Related Modules:

* Physical Assessment of the Adult
* First Stage of Labor
* Second Stage of Labor
* Lifelong Reproductive Healthcare
* Postpartum Care
* Substance Use and Abuse
* Grief and Self-Care
* Charting and Practice Guidelines

Submitting Module for Assessment:

Study Group modules are accepted electronically in PDF format *only*. We encourage you to submit modules as you complete them throughout each quarter of enrollment.

Please e-mail your completed Study Group module to:

Study Group Course Work Instructor nmistudygroup@nationalmidwiferyinstitute.com

Once your module has been e-mailed to us, you will receive an e-mail confirmation that we have received it. Study Group modules are reviewed and returned in digital format as PDF documents. Modules can take up to 1 month from submission to be reviewed and returned to you. We will return your module as an e-mail attachment. Each module includes an Evaluation Sheet at the end of the pdf. The module’s page on the student portal also includes a link to a fillable online module evaluation sheet. Please take the time to fill out the module evaluation sheet and return it to us for each module, it helps us to improve our course work.

Please follow these formatting guidelines when submitting modules:

* Your first initial and last name in title of PDF, along with name of module. Example: “ERyanFirstStage.pdf”
* Title of module on the document’s front page
* Your name on the document’s front page
* Provide the text of each question, followed by a blank line and then your thoughtful answer (without the question, you have commentary without context)
* Blank line between the answer for a question and the next question: question, blank line, answer, blank line, question, blank line, answer…
* Please leave margin space for our comments!
* Don’t use script or cursive writing style text
* Font size not smaller than 12
* Credit sources of direct quotes

Completion Requirements and Feedback:

In order to complete this module for graduation purposes from National Midwifery Institute you must review all resources, complete the attached short answer questions for assessment, long answer questions for deeper reflection, and learning activities/projects, and submit them as detailed above. Upon return to you, your coursework may have feedback or ask for additional information or exploration on certain topics. Your work will be evaluated n the following Rubric (pasted below). You must achieve a minimum score of **7.5** in order to move on to your next module, though we encourage all students to strive for a **10.**

|  | **Level 1**  **(0 Points)**  **Not Adequate** | **Level 2**  **(1 Point) Developing Adequacy** | **Level 3**  **(1.5 points)**  **Meets Basic Expectations** | **Level 3**  **(2 points) Exceeds Expectations** | **Student Score** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Completion of module prompts and elements** | -Module not completed | -Major Elements of module are missing | -All aspects of module elements present, with some minor questions unanswered or missing | -All aspects of module elements present and answered completely |  |
| **Demonstrates Comprehension of module content and concepts** | - Lack of comprehension | - Responses are unclear and do not reflect basic comprehension of module concepts | - Responses are clear and reflect basic comprehension of module content and concepts | - Responses are clear, well written, and reflect in-depth comprehension of module content and concepts. Added subpoints and additional reflections demonstrate a deeper knowledge and curiosity. |  |
| **Analysis** | - Key terms not defined | -Inaccurate definitions of key items  -Limited connections made between evidence, subtopics and clinical experience | -Accurate definitions of key items  -Connections made between evidence, subtopics and clinical experience -Incorporation of original ideas and incorporates some clinical experience  in responses where possible | - Accurate definitions of key items  -Strong connections made between evidence, subtopics and clinical experience |  |
| **Evidence** | - No research evidence used | -Research not used  -Research not clearly connected to questions asked in module | -Research is present but limited -Research presented is weak or not relevant to communities served by midwives | -Research is abundant -Research is compelling and relevant to communities served by midwives |  |
| **Engagement with Learning Resources** | -Evident study sources were not utilized | -Evident study sources were partially utilized | -Evident that study sources were fully utilized | -Evident that study sources were fully utilized and independent research was undertaken -Full incorporation of original ideas, personal analysis and incorporates relevant clinical experience in all areas possible |  |

Skills

Following are excerpts from the NMI forms for assessment of midwifery skills, which include all skills identified and required by NARM. Review the following skills and consider how they each relate to the content of this module. If you are currently working with a preceptor, take this opportunity to focus on these areas. During Supervised Primary Care you will formally evaluate these skills together using the NMI forms *Form 52 - Assessment of Student’s Midwifery Skills* and *Form 53 - Student Self-Assessment of Midwifery Skills.*

1. Midwifery Counseling, Education and Communication:

J. Provides education, counseling and/or referral, where appropriate for:

2. Abuse issues: emotional, physical and sexual

*Further Thoughts*

*We understand that this is an extremely sensitive topic and it can be a difficult subject to study. Sadly, the number of clients we will encounter who have been abused in some way is very high. In this module you are asked to reflect both professionally as well as personally. We fully understand you do not wish to explore any personal experience. We are also available to discuss this topic with you on both professional and personal levels.*

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*Short Answer Questions*

Short Answer Questions:

1. Define the following:

1. domestic violence/intimate partner violence
2. sexual assault
3. emotional/psychological abuse
4. financial abuse
5. neglect
6. institutional abuse

2. What circumstances increase risk of domestic abuse?

3. How are abuse rates affected by pregnancy?

4. What is the rate of death by homicide in pregnant populations?

5. Describe the difference in statistical occurrence of domestic violence between:

1. white and African-American women
2. urban and rural women
3. women living below poverty level and above poverty level
4. immigrant and undocumented women and non-immigrant women
5. men and women (cisgender)
6. children and adults and the elderly
7. straight communities and LGBTQQI+ communities
8. trans communities and cisgender communities

6. On average, what percentage of the population has experienced some form of abuse in their lifetime?

7. What are some indicators of abuse?

8. What legal obligation do midwives have to report domestic violence?

9. What is a person experiencing domestic violence at risk for?

10. How does alcohol and substance use affect domestic violence?

11. Describe the dynamic that occurs between abuser and abused. Include what pattern can be anticipated with domestic violence.

12. What is the strongest risk factor that a person will be abusive?

13. What kinds of things can trigger response to previous physical or sexual abuse?

14. What questions as a midwife do you ask a client to explore a history of abuse? To determine if abuse is current?

15. How can you best support a pregnant client who discloses current physical abuse or domestic violence to you?

16. How can you best support a non-pregnant client who discloses current physical abuse or domestic violence to you?

17. How can you best support any client who discloses past history or sexual abuse to you?

18. How can you best support any client who discloses “other” forms of abuse to you, including financial, emotional, institutional, and other abuses?

Continued……..

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*Long Answer Questions for Deeper Reflection*

Questions Requiring Longer, More Thoughtful Answers:

(number continued from previous section).

19. How can a person’s history of abuse affect their pregnancy, birth, and parenting?

20. Given the national incidence of domestic violence and sexual abuse, each of us is likely to have either directly experienced or encountered some form of abuse. What is your personal experience with abuse (optional)? How does your experience inform your work in midwifery?

21. Using the online resources for this module, look into a form of abuse, or abuse in a community, that you are not already deeply familiar with. Reflect on what you learned here.

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*Projects/Learning Activities*

Projects(send completed projects with the rest of your course work for this module)

(number continued from previous section).

22. Create a list of recommended books and websites addressing physical abuse, domestic violence, and sexual abuse. List author and brief description.

23. Research in your own community and locate women’s shelters and shelters who take trans folks and services for responding to domestic violence. Create a list with specific information such as who may access the services (mothers, children, trans folks), length of stay, secure location, contact info, counseling services available, and volunteer programs.

24. Identify the rape crisis center nearest you. Contact them and learn about their process in response to a reported rape.

25. Create a referral list for your clients dealing with their history of sexual and/or physical abuse. Include therapists and support groups.

25. Research the laws in your state regarding the arrest and prosecution of abusers. Does your state prosecute automatically or is the victim the only party who may press charges?

Please answer ONE #26 or #27

26. Review for yourself the ways that you keep centered, especially in times of difficulty. Read The Peace Book Chapters 1, 2, 3, 9. review Chapter 7. Do the self inventory exercises in Chapter 9. Prepare yourself to be stable when you next encounter challenges such as domestic violence in our culture. Write about your process. You may send it in or keep it private.

27. Read “Trauma Stewardship: An Everyday Guide to Caring for Self While Caring for Others” by Connie Burk and Laura van Dernoot Lipsky and write up your thoughts and experiences of the book.