

Domestic Violence: Abuse of Women

Thank you for choosing Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. Please let us know if you have questions or concerns or do not understand the information we give you. Always ask us to explain words or phrases that are not familiar.

Abuse of Women

One in every four women will be in an abusive relationship at some time. Yet this kind of crime is often kept a secret. Women stay with men who batter them for many reasons. Some reasons include money, fear, or not being able to cope alone.

Does your partner...

- ▶ Embarrass you with bad names and put downs?
- ▶ Control what you do, whom you see or talk to, or where you go?
- ▶ Make all the decisions including money matters?
- ▶ Tell you everything is your fault?
- ▶ Shove, slap, grab, hit or force sex on you?
- ▶ Get upset when things don't go his/her way?
- ▶ Harass you at your job, school, or activities?
- ▶ Call, text or email often to check up on you?

If you said "yes" to even one, then you may be in an abusive relationship.

You have the right to be treated with respect and dignity. Remember that leaving is a process:

- ▶ Put some money away.
- ▶ Make copies of keys & important papers and leave them with someone you trust.
- ▶ Have a safety plan for coming and going. Share it with people you trust and your children.
- ▶ Every situation is different. Call Family Services 24 Hour Crisis Line (723-8125) to learn more about how to plan for safety.

If you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship, **remember that you (or she) are not alone.**

Help is a phone call away:

- ▶ Domestic Violence Crisis 24 Hour Hotline – (336) 723-8125
- ▶ WFUBMC Emergency Room/Forensic Nurse Examiner – (336) 713-9100
- ▶ Police – 773-7700 or 911
- ▶ National Coalition Against Domestic Violence Hotline – 1-800-799-7233
- ▶ Safe on Seven – (336) 761-2320

This information is general. If your doctor tells you something different, follow his or her instructions.

For more information, stop by our Resource Center at Piedmont Plaza II, 1st Floor, visit our website at <http://www1.wfubmc.edu/whcoe/> or contact us at (336) 713-4220.

Revised 2010 by:
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For Research, Leadership, Education

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