

IPV: Red Flags

From: AMA Diagnostic and Treatment Guidelines on Domestic Violence, March 1992

<p>Signs of physical and sexual abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head, neck chest, abdomen • Pelvic pain • Recurrent STDs, UTI • Pain with pelvic exam • Trauma to the genital area • Serious head injuries • Injuries related to being pushed (back/spinal) • Fractured mandible • Peri-orbital hematoma • Perforated tympanic membranes • Lacerations/cuts around eyes and lips • Neck burns/bruises <p>Injury in Pregnancy:</p> <p>Pattern of injury:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily central region • Multiple injuries; often chest and genitalia • Pre-term abortions, bleeding miscarriages and premature labor • Hyperemesis • Late or sporadic pre-natal care 	<p>Illness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor management of Asthma, Diabetes & Other chronic illness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Note: Abuser may deny access to medications, food and sleep</i> • Chronic Pain • Headache • Pelvic Pain • Dyspareunia • Abdominal Pain • IBS • Frequent visits for vague complaints 	<p>Psychosocial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depression • Anxiety • Suicide Attempts • Chronic substance misuse • Substance Abuse • PTSD • Eating Disorders • History of DV in childhood home 	<p>Behavioral</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in appointment pattern • Multiple missed appointments • Partner cancels appointments • Overprotective Partner • Late or sporadic entry into prenatal care • Visits for vague, somatic complaints • Partner always accompanies patient • Threatening partner
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