Alliance for Better Care

RASS Case study – Sexual Assault

Case study – sexual assault

Situation – Female adult patient

- **Patient is deaf, doesn't speak English and communicates via Google Translate on her phone.** The hotel she arrived into did not have a registering GP practice at the time.
- **Patient seen by ABC paramedic when first arrived for insect bites.** Reviewed again by ABC nurse 48 hours later as bites not improving. Subsequently reviewed by ABC GP and started on medication for mental health.
- **Seen by ABC night nurse a few days later complaining of abdominal pain.** During this consultation, she disclosed that she had been raped and physically abused in France on her way to the UK.
- **She has a history of mental health problems** and felt her mental health had worsened since being in the UK. Discussed with Clinical Lead and plan made.
- **Reviewed the following day by ABC nurse and offered referral to SARC** (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) and the local mental health service which she consented to. Referrals done by RASS team, with adult safeguarding referral also done with her consent. Pregnancy testing offered.
- **SARC declined referral as rape occurred 2 weeks prior to arrival** (SARC currently only seeing patients within 7 days of assault). SPFT declined referral due to sexual trauma, and recommended ABC signpost her to the Life Centre.

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Outcome

- **Referred to Life Centre by RASS GP** – referral declined due to lack of interpreters and being within 6 months of sexual trauma. Offered referral to local sexual health clinic which she declined.
- **Seen the following week by ABC paramedic** and GP for neck pain from previous physical assault. Examined and started on analgesia. Reviewed again one week later and additional medication prescribed.
- **Prioritised for GP registration once registering GP practice** for hotel found - registered with local surgery and given NHS number.
- **Seen by ABC paramedic for health check** – consented to sexual health screening with ABC.
- **Ongoing regular contact with ABC team**. ABC team liaised with GP practice to arrange a F2F appointment at her practice to discuss her ongoing issues with sleep.
- **Sexual assault pathway developed by ABC** in response to this case and shared with local practices.

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