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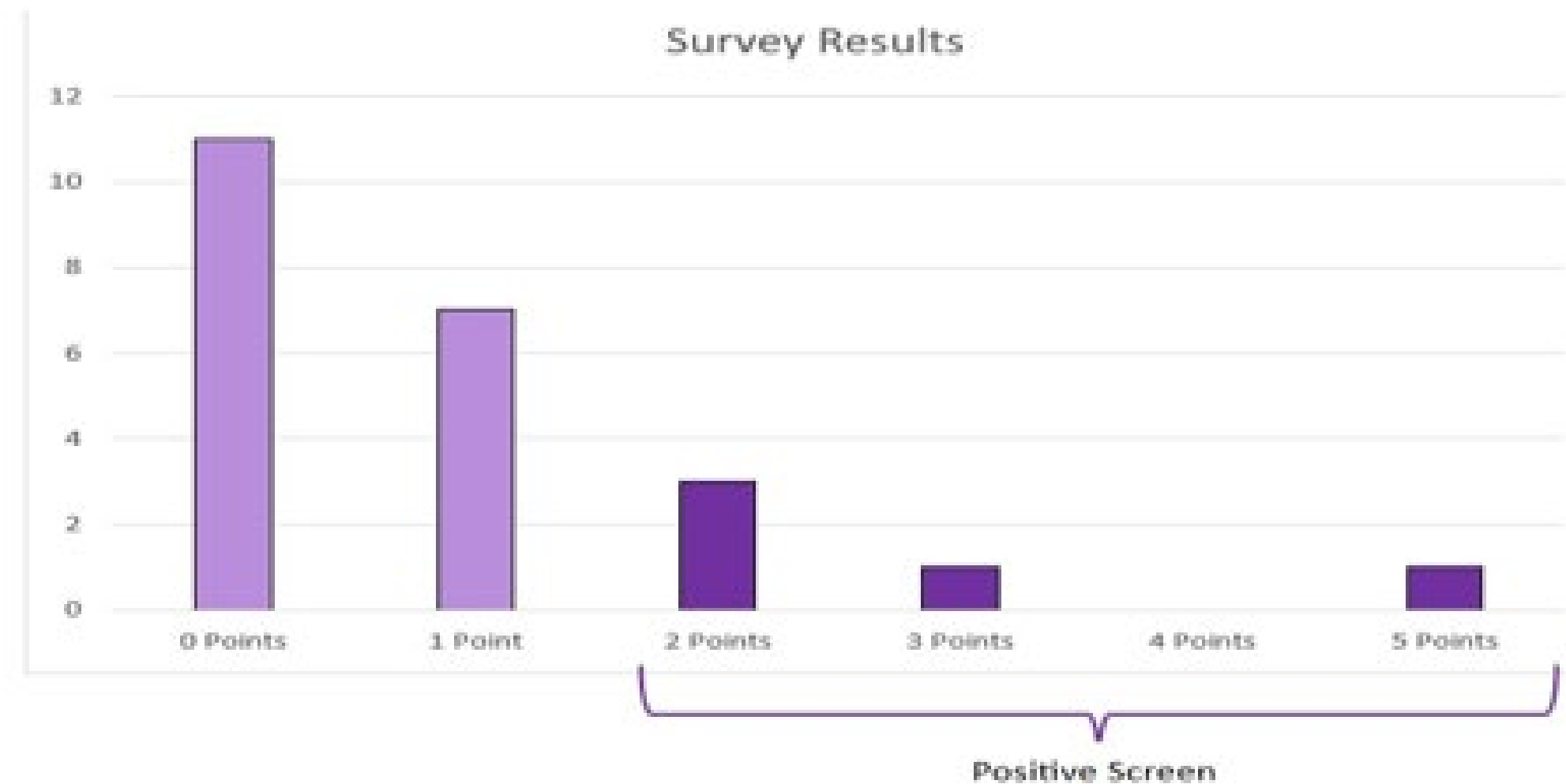
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Child Trafficking: The Identification and Intervention of Pediatric Trafficked Victims in the Emergency Room

Tera Holland, BSN, RN, CPN

Practice Problem

- Human Trafficking (HT) is a growing issue in the United States with an estimated 2,500 minors reported being trafficked in 2019 (Murdock, 2022)
- 88% of HT survivors reported seeing a medical provider while trafficked (Kaltiso, 2018)
- Dallas/Fort Worth is ranked third highest of HT nationwide
- A major metropolitan pediatric hospital in North Texas lacks screening for HT and clear response algorithm for suspected HT victims



Implementation & Pilot Testing

- Pilot was initiated in (ED) with three nurses.
- All patients, 10 years and older, that can communicate were screened.
- Each question answered yes counted as one point, except for number of partners, 1 point for 6-10 partners, or greater than 10 partners.
- A positive screen would indicate a referral to social work.
- Social work would determine if patient should be seen by child abuse doctor.

Literature/Evidence

- Literature search showed one validated screening tool for pediatrics- Greenbaum Screening Tool
- 4 articles reviewed the use of this screening in pediatrics
- Several articles identified Emergency Department (ED) as the optimal location to screen
- Use of tablet to gather screening responses increased respondent anonymity



PICO(T) Question

Does screening of developmentally appropriate 10 year and older patients using the validated Greenbaum screening tool in the pediatric emergency department setting increase identification of patients at risk for human trafficking compared to current state without a screening tool?

Greenbaum Tool

1. Have you ever broken any bones, had any cuts that required stitches, or been knocked unconscious? (yes/no)
2. Some kids have a hard time living at home and feel that they need to run away. Have you ever run away from home? (yes/no)
3. Kids often use drugs or drink alcohol, and different kids use different drugs. Have you used drugs or alcohol in the last 12 months? (yes/no)
4. If you have had sex before, how many sexual partners have you had? (0, 1-5, 6-10, >10)
5. Have you ever had a sexually transmitted disease (STD), like herpes or gonorrhea or chlamydia or trichomonas? (yes/no)

Outcomes/Results

23 patients were screened during a time period of 9 weeks
 5 positive screens
 21.7% positivity rate

Practice Change(s)

Pilot is currently being evaluated and plan to implement to entire ED with plans to make pilot trial system-wide.