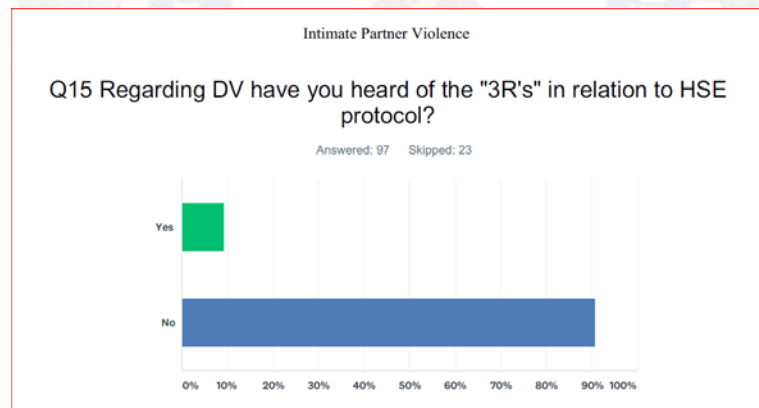


INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV): WHAT LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF IPV HAVE IRISH PARAMEDICS.

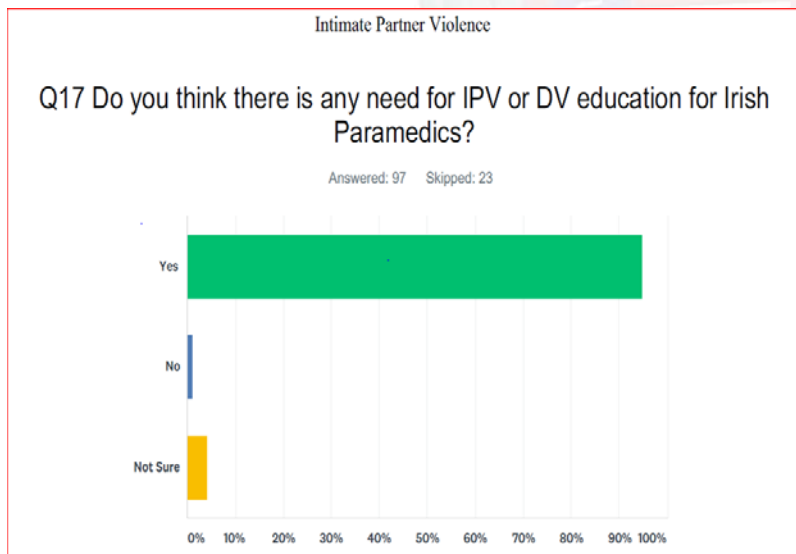
- ❖ Simon Sawyer et al writing in 2014 have described IPV as abuse that takes place between people who are currently or were previously in an intimate relationship. This abuse can be economic, physiological or emotional, as well as controlling behaviour and physical or sexual violence, (Sawyer et al 2014).
- ❖ Paramedics can encounter the victims of IPV regularly, but they need to be able to identify this abuse.



- ❖ This study set out to establish what level of IPV knowledge and training was present in the National Ambulance Service, (NAS).
- ❖ 120 undergraduate student paramedics, postgraduate student paramedics and postgraduate intern paramedics participated in this survey.
- ❖ 86.46% of participants had not heard of IPV.
- ❖ 90.92% had not heard of the HSE “3R’s” policy in relation to domestic violence and sexual violence.



- ❖ 91.75% believed improving the IPV knowledge of paramedics was necessary.
- ❖ It is clear from this study that the participants did want more knowledge of IPV in order to identify and assist patients.
- ❖ There were several suggestions on how to provide paramedics with the correct information which shows a genuine interest in providing a better standard of knowledge.



“More education, scenarios based around real life situations”.

“Possibly a course built specifically around this issue and how to recognize scenes and how to direct the patients to where help is available”.



References

- ❖ Sawyer S, Parekh V, Williams A and Williams B. Are Australian Paramedics adequately trained and prepaid for intimate partner violence? A pilot study. Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine. 2014 Nov. 28. 32-5. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25440144>.

