

The ***Handbook on Sensitive Practice for Health Care Practitioners: Lessons from Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse*** (2nd edition) is published by the Public Health Agency of Canada (through the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence) and is available in English and French, **free of charge** in print and at:

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/pdfs/nfntsx-handbook_e.pdf and

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/pdfs/nfntsx-handbook_f.pdf.

Hard copies can be ordered through the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, at:

<http://esubmitit.sjgg.com/orderform2.cfm?catid=29&cid=17048674> or 1-800-267-1291.

The handbook contains information that is important for *all* health care providers and students to use with *all clients* and was developed for practitioners who do not have specialized training in mental health. Research suggests that *at least* 20 percent of adult women and between five to 10 percent of adult men have a history of childhood sexual abuse. Combined with the increasing evidence that violence affects health and health care in a wide variety of ways far beyond mental health, *all health practitioners are likely to work, often unknowingly, with adult survivors on a regular basis.*

This handbook describes the principles of Sensitive Practice and offers guidelines to enhance survivors' sense of safety during health care encounters, in the interest of maximizing the benefits of consultation and treatment. The Handbook was developed through a collaborative research project involving over 400 adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, mental health clinicians and health care professionals from 10 disciplines, from across Canada.

The study was conducted by Candice Schachter (U of Saskatchewan, School of Physical Therapy), Eli Teram and Carol Stalker (Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty of Social Work), Gerri Lasiuk (U of Alberta Faculty of Nursing) and Alanna Danilkewich (U of Saskatchewan College of Medicine).