Human Trafficking
Reporting Policies for
Iowa

**IOWA IS A MANDATED REPORTER OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING***

### National Policies

Federal law *does* currently mandate reporting by healthcare providers of suspected human trafficking of patients **UNDER 18** (as child abuse per Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act); no mandated reporting for 18 and over.

**Sex trafficking:** the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age

**Labor trafficking:** the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery

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### State Policies

**Under 18:**
Iowa does require *immediate mandatory reporting* by all healthcare providers and applies to a health practitioner who receives information confirming that a child is infected with a STI. The report shall be made within 24 hours, both orally and in writing. The oral report shall be made by telephone or otherwise to the Iowa Department of Human Services. If immediate protection for the child is advisable, that person shall also make an oral report to an appropriate law enforcement agency. A written report is no longer required.

**18 and over:**
Iowa does mandate reporting if a dependent adult is suspected to have suffered abuse. Report the suspected dependent adult abuse to the department (1-800-362-2178). All other reporting should only be done with either patient consent or per HIPPA Privacy Rule regulations, if concern for imminent harm.

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**Remember to consult with your patients about your concerns using trauma-informed care and respect patients’ autonomy.**

**Doctors, nurses, and social workers are mandatory reporters of all violations of human rights. Providers must get patient permission to report or call if 18+; it is a violation of privacy rights to report without consent.**

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**National Human Trafficking Hotline**

1(888) 373-7888

Scan For: The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 and Jones Day: Human Trafficking and Health Care Providers: Legal Requirements for Reporting and Education