Rapid access to talking therapies from the SARC, through partnership working and the use of screening tools

Sexual violence may have a negative psychological impact on the victim. Some survivors will in time recover whilst others will go on to develop PTSD or suffer long term psychological sequelae, such as depression and anxiety. The Kent SARC, in conjunction with the Kent Mental Health Partnership Trust have developed a screening tool for nurses and crisis workers to assess which survivors are at risk of psychological harm and might benefit from rapid access to talking therapies, including EMDR. The screening tool and the pathway to permit rapid access to talking therapies is discussed and an early data set presented for patients treated through this pathway.

Biography

Lucy Love is the Assistant Medical Director for Mountain Healthcare, a major provider of forensic medical services for complainants of sexual assault in the UK. She has been a Sexual Offences Examiner for 20 years, including the evaluation of child sexual abuse and regularly appears in court as an expert witness. She is a recognized trainer of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners and Paediatric Medical Examiners in the UK and is an accredited Psychosexual Therapist in Kent.

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