



# SHARP News



## Now Approved for Continuing Education Credit! In-Service Training Lecture for Health Care Providers: Sexual Behavior Risk Assessment and Intervention in the Outpatient Setting

**Attention MTF trainers, educators, health promoters, and prevention-minded professionals** - put prevention into practice with this excellent, no-cost, tool for local in-service training.

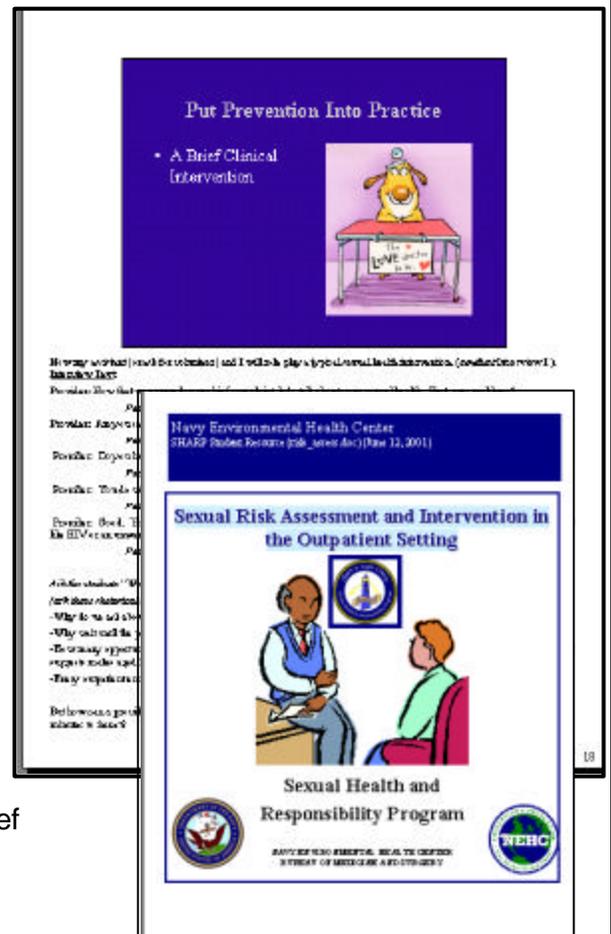
Do health care providers assess the sexual health of their patients during routine encounters as recommended by the Institutes of Medicine and US Preventive Services Task Force? A number of recent studies suggest they often do not. For example, a study reported in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine ((2000;18(2):109-114)) revealed that **only 28%** of adults who had a routine check-up in the past year reported being asked about STDs during that visit. These and other data demonstrate that providers are missing opportunities to identify, diagnose and treat STDs, and to identify and intervene in risky sexual behavior.

Health care providers can and should speak with all their adult and adolescent patients about their sexual health. But how does the provider go about this task? Who should bring it up? What are the "right" questions to ask? What advice should be given? How much time will this take?

A new fully-scripted PowerPoint lecture and companion student manual designed for health care providers are available now on the SHARP website (<http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/hp/sharp/presentations.htm>).

**SHARP "Sexual Risk Assessment and Intervention in the Outpatient Setting"** is a 60 to 90-minute lecture for health care providers. It introduces data about HIV, STD, and unplanned pregnancy incidence, and introduces data which indicate that providers often miss opportunities to discuss sexual health with their clients. A research-based, 6-step, client-centered counseling model is introduced, and role plays are used to demonstrate "typical" and "model" brief interventions with a patient.

This training program has been approved by the Bethesda Naval School of Health Sciences for **1.8 Nursing Educational Activity I** contact hours and **1.8 category II credits** of the Physician's Recognition Award. To apply for CEU credit, the local lecture facilitator simply follows the instructions in the student manual.



# Sexual Health and Responsibility Program (SHARP)

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