Addressing violence against migrant & refugee women

What can health policy makers and health program managers do?

- Guarantee access to health services to all survivors of violence, including those from migrant and refugee communities, by strengthening policy and legal frameworks in line with the evidence base.
- Provide pre- and in-service training and mentoring to the health workforce to build appropriate skills and competences for responding to violence against women migrants and refugees.
- Take specific steps to reduce barriers in access to essential health services, including timely post-rape care, faced by women migrants and refugees, for example by adjusting location and hours of services, offering interpretation, addressing financial costs etc.
- Strengthen service delivery pathways within the health system and across all essential services to facilitate seamless referral and support.
- Document and share information about available support for survivors in accessible formats and appropriate languages.
- Strengthen collaboration with other sectors to address the social determinants of violence against migrant and refugee women and girls.
- Mobilize communities to raise awareness about zero tolerance for gender-based violence, address xenophobia and discrimination and promote gender and social equality in society.
- Assist with the collection and analysis of disaggregated data on violence against migrant women and girls, its magnitude and consequences, to inform evidence-based policy and practice.

For more information visit: www.paho.org/en/topics/violence-against-women

Violence against migrant and refugee women can and must be prevented