Strangulation and Intimate Partner Violence

Moderator:
Christina Titus

Featured Hosts:
Cheryl Re, R.N., B.S.N., SANE
Lieutenant Daniel Rincon

February 21, 2018

Note: This session will be recorded and posted on the Past Sessions tab when available. The audio for today's session will play through your computer speakers.
Technical Overview

- If you are experiencing any technical issues with the audio for this session, please let us know in the Chat box.

- As with all technology, we may experience a momentary lapse in the webinar session. In the event of a problem, please be patient and remain on the line. If the problem persists, please contact our technical specialist, Kaila Hough, by sending her a private chat or by emailing her at khough@ovcttac.org for technical assistance.

- Today’s session will be recorded and made available on the OVC TTAC Expert Q&A Past Sessions tab, along with a copy of the PowerPoint.
Featured Hosts

Cheryl Re
R.N., B.S.N., SANE

Lieutenant
Dan Rincon

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Q&A

How do I explain to a client that strangulation is attempted murder?
Q&A

Why is strangulation a more serious offense?

What makes it concerning to you?
Q&A

How prevalent is strangulation in intimate partner violence compared to other forms of physical violence?
Q&A

Why do strangulation victims seem more hesitant to follow through with the criminal process than other physical violence victims?

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Any suggestions on how to convince a client to seek medical attention?
Why do you believe non-fatal strangulation is compared to fatal strangulation? Is there some warning sign that the former will progress to the latter?
Q&A

What signs and symptoms should officers look for?
SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF STRANGULATION

NEUROLOGICAL
- Loss of memory
- Loss of consciousness
- Behavioral changes
- Loss of sensation
- Extremity weakness
- Difficulty speaking
- Fainting
- Urination
- Defecation
- Vomiting
- Dizziness
- Headaches

SCALP
- Petechiae
- Bald spots (from hair being pulled)
- Bump to the head (from blunt force trauma or falling to the ground)

EYES & EYELIDS
- Petechiae to eyeball
- Petechiae to eyelid
- Bloody red eyeball(s)
- Vision changes
- Droopy eyelid

EARS
- Ringing in ears
- Petechiae on earlobe(s)
- Bruising behind the ear
- Bleeding in the ear

FACE
- Petechiae (tiny red spots - slightly red or flat)
- Scratch marks
- Facial drooping
- Swelling

MOUTH
- Bruising
- Swollen tongue
- Swollen lips
- Cuts/abrasions
- Internal Petechiae

NECK

Source: www.strangulationtraininginstitute.com
STRANGULATION SUPPLEMENT

TO BE COMPLETED IN ADDITION TO AVS

YOUR AGENCY: ___________________________ FORM COMPLETED BY: ___________________________

CASE #: ___________________________ TODAY'S DATE: ___________________________ DATE OF INCIDENT: ___________________________

VICTIM INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY A POLICE OFFICER

VICTIM'S NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE): ___________________________ DOB: ___________________________

SEX: F ☐ - M ☐ RACE: ___________________________ DL #: ___________________________

VICTIM/SUSPECT RELATIONSHIP: Married ☐, Dating/Engaged ☐, Children Together? Yes ☐, No ☐. Same Household ☐, Related ☐, Or Other (Explain) ☐

METHOD/MANNER (HOW WAS THE VICTIM STRANLGED?): One Hand (Right) ☐, One Hand (Left) ☐, Two Hands ☐, Forearm ☐, Knee/Foot ☐, Chokehold ☐, Use of Ligature (Describe, Photograph Injuries & Ligature, & Collect) ☐ ___________________________, Or Other (Explain) ☐

IS THE SUSPECT LEFT OR RIGHT-HANDED? Right-Handed ☐, Left-Handed ☐, Ambidextrous ☐

CAN YOU ESTIMATE HOW LONG YOU WERE STRANLGED (SECONDS, MINUTES, ETC.)? ___________________________

WERE YOU STRANLGED MULTIPLE TIMES DURING THIS ASSAULT? Yes ☐, No ☐, If Yes, Number of Times: ___________________________

ESTIMATE PRESSURE USED (1 = WEAK, 10 = EXTREMELY STRONG): 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐

DID PRESSURE VARY AT ANY TIME DURING THE ASSAULT? Yes ☐, No ☐, If Yes, Describe:

WERE YOU SUFFOCATED OR DID ANY OBJECT COVER YOUR NOSE AND/OR MOUTH AT ANY POINT? Yes ☐, No ☐

If Yes, What Was Used?

Source: MCKAY TRAINING & CONSULTING, LLC
## SAN DIEGO COUNTYWIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPLEMENTAL

### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUSPECT & VICTIM

- Spouse
- Former Spouse
- Dating
- Formerly Dating
- Engaged
- Formerly Engaged
- Child in Common
- Cohabitants (not related to each other)
- Former Cohabitants

Length of relationship __ Year(s) __ Months(s)  If applicable, date relationship ended: ____

### VICTIM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VICTIM NAME (Last, First, Middle)</th>
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<tr>
<th>DATE OF BIRTH:</th>
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<td>M □  F □</td>
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### SUSPECT

| SUSPECT NAME (Last, First, Middle) |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE OF BIRTH:</th>
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### EMOTIONAL DEMEANOR UPON ARRIVAL

- Upset
- Crying
- Fearful
- Calm
- Angry
- Nervous
- Not at Scene
- Flat Affect

### INJURIES

- Report of Pain
- Bruise(s)
- Abrasion(s)
- Head Injury
- Laceration(s)
- Possible Broken Bones
- Soreness
- Other: ____

Explain: ____

- No visible or reported injuries
- Draw location of injuries in diagram below

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**Source:** San Diego Police Department
What is the best way to ask a victim if they have been strangled?
Q&A

In addition to a medical exam, what should law enforcement do?
Q&A

What signs and symptoms should we tell the victim to look for if they refuse to get medical attention?
Q&A

Do you follow a strangulation photo protocol?
Q&A

What is the most common medical sign of strangulation?
Should any forensic nurse examination be conducted outside of the emergency room?
Q&A

Can a survivor of strangulation die years later from their injuries?
What side effects can a victim of strangulation expect long-term?
Q&A

What can advocates do to help clients recognize the risk or severity of strangulation?
Q&A

Do most victims of strangulation seek a protection order?
Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention

strangulationtraininginstitute.com

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Next Month

**Topic:** Assisting Male Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse

**Date:** Wednesday, March 21, at 2:00 p.m. e.t.

**Featured Host:** Jim Struve, LCSW

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Before You Leave…

- Download a **certificate of attendance** for today’s session, in our downloads pod, below the PowerPoint.

- For more **resources related to this topic**, please see the additional links pod on the right of the screen today, above the chat box.

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Thank You!

- If your question was not addressed in this session, you can email your question to our hosts:
  
  **Cheryl Re:** cheryl.re@state.ma.us  
  **Lieutenant Dan Rincon:** rinconcitc@me.com

- To learn about upcoming Expert Q&A sessions, please visit the OVC TTAC Expert Q&A page at [www.ovcttac.gov/ExpertQA](http://www.ovcttac.gov/ExpertQA).

- Please email us with your Expert Q&A topic suggestions at [ExpertQA@ovcttac.org](mailto:ExpertQA@ovcttac.org).

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