

IRISi NEWS

IRISi
interventions

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THE IRIS PROGRAMME

Introduction to the IRIS programme
for General Practice Teams and
Primary Care Networks

As a clinician, how confident do you feel in recognising and responding to Domestic Abuse during consultations?

IRISi has recently launched its “**Introduction to the IRIS programme for GPs and Primary Care Networks**” guide, where we explain how and why IRIS can help clinicians to identify possible signs of Domestic Abuse (DA) among their female patients.

According to the Department of Health, 80% of women in a violent relationship seek help from health services and these are often a woman’s first, or only, point of contact. It means that, if you are a clinician, it’s possible that you will be the first or only professional who may have the chance to identify these patients.

THE IRIS PROGRAMME WAS DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE TRAINING, SUPPORT AND REFERRAL PATHWAYS FOR GENERAL PRACTICE TEAMS AND THEIR PATIENTS ACROSS THE UK.

“It is very important that healthcare professionals are fully prepared to recognise and respond to the symptoms of DA, especially because this social disease can produce signs that are hard to see at a first sight”, explains Medina Johnson, CEO at IRISi.

[Access the guide](#)

IRISi team and Calan DVS celebrate the #IRISProgrammeExpansion in Swansea Bay



The IRISi team and Calan DVS, our local social franchise partner, are happy to announce the expansion of the IRIS Programme across Swansea Bay. Together, we will be delivering the initiative to a greater number of local general practices starting in April 2021. This partnership first began in February 2020 and, despite all the difficulties that came along with the pandemic, the IRIS programme was quickly adjusted to the new reality. As a result, the programme was able to increase the support offered by general practice clinicians to women affected by Domestic Violence and Abuse in Swansea Bay. [READ MORE >>](#)

Landmark Domestic Abuse Bill receives Royal Assent

The Domestic Abuse Bill passed both Houses of Parliament and was signed into law on 29 April 2021. The Domestic Abuse Act will provide further protections to the millions of people who experience domestic abuse and strengthen measures to tackle perpetrators.

For the first time in history there will be a wide-ranging legal definition of domestic abuse which incorporates a range of abuses beyond physical violence, including emotional, coercive or controlling behaviour, and economic abuse. The measures include important new protections and support for victims.

While IRISi welcomes the new Act, it doesn't go far enough and we will continue to work with our partners in the violence against women and girls sector to lobby for strengthening support for migrant women and the response to perpetrators. We are pleased to see the Act prohibits GPs and other health professionals from charging a victim of domestic abuse for a letter to support an application for legal aid. [READ MORE>>](#)



Would you like to give us a hand?

Do you have something to share about IRISi or the IRIS Programme - such as the results of your site, suggestions or feedback? We would love to hear from you! Please email us at geisa.davo@irisi.org.



HIGHLIGHTS

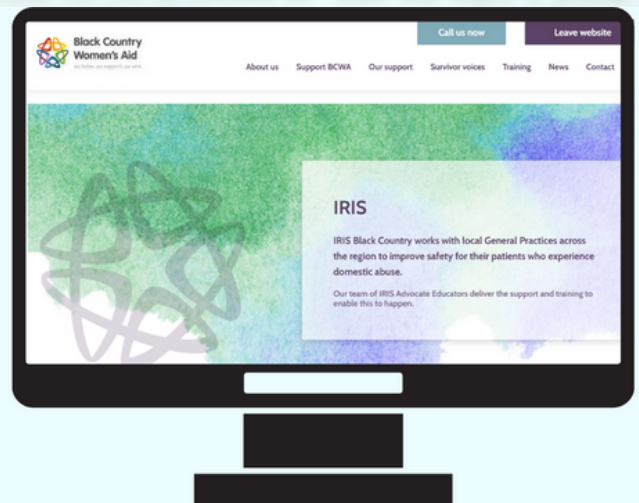


TRAINING ROLLOUT

IRISi has now completed its comprehensive training review! We are very pleased to share that we will be rolling out revised IRIS general practice training materials to all incredible IRIS teams from late May. If you belong to this amazing network, please get in touch with your Regional Manager to find out more.

IRIS BLACK COUNTRY

IRIS Black Country has just launched its new website. Created and hosted by Black Country Women's Aid, the page is available to general practices across the region. Please access to know more. [READ MORE>>](#)



NEW DATA SYSTEM

The days of using Excel spreadsheets for collecting and analysing IRIS data and evaluation are numbered! We are delighted to announce that our new system for collecting and analysing IRIS data is due to be launched this month to all of our sites.

