

Recognising signs of abuse

can help you provide the necessary support and care to the victim

Physical abuse



Look for:

- Injuries at different stages of healing
- Protecting parts of their body / showing discomfort
- Bruising or marks – especially in protected or unusual areas



Listen for:

- A well-rehearsed or implausible story
- Self blaming
- Involvement of a partner in their explanation

Non-physical abuse - Listen for...



Victim being demeaned, humiliated, insulted or interrupted constantly by their partner



Victim receiving constant text messages or calls from their partner



Avoiding answering questions about their partner



Changes in demeanour, behaviour or level of engagement with the service

Remember - If you see possible signs of one type of violence, this may only be a small piece of a bigger picture.

To learn more about Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, check out the HSE DSGBV Training Programme on HSELand.

