



# **Domestic violence and suicide by women under the care of mental health services**

**Dr Pauline Turnbull**  
**Project Director & Academic Lead**  
The National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide  
and Safety in Mental Health (NCISH)

# National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health (NCISH)



The National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health has the overall aim of reducing suicide and improving safety for all people under the care of mental health services

## Contribute to lower suicide rates



**Psychological Medicine**  
**Online harms? Suicide-related online experience: a UK-wide case series study of young people who die by suicide**

**Original Article**  
C. Buckley, S. G. Khan, N. Roberts, S. Ford and L. Appleby

**Abstract**  
The authors have examined online experience in young people who die by suicide. The study was a case series study of young people who die by suicide. The study was a case series study of young people who die by suicide. The study was a case series study of young people who die by suicide.

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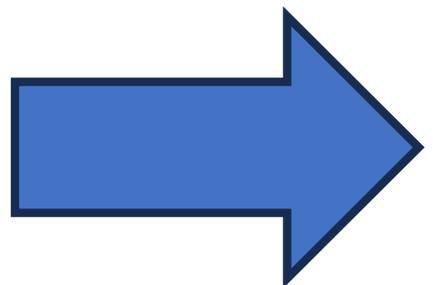
**Suicide-related internet use among mental health patients who died by suicide in the UK: a national clinical survey with case-control analysis**

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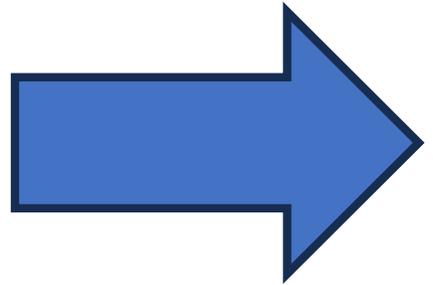

## Draft Online Safety Bill

Presented to Parliament by the Minister of State for Digital and Culture by Command of Her Majesty May 2021



## The National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Safety in Mental Health

**Safer services: A toolkit for specialist mental health services and primary care**



Policy paper

## Suicide prevention in England: 5-year cross-sector strategy

Published 11 September 2023

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This was published under the 2022 to 2024 Sunak Conservative government

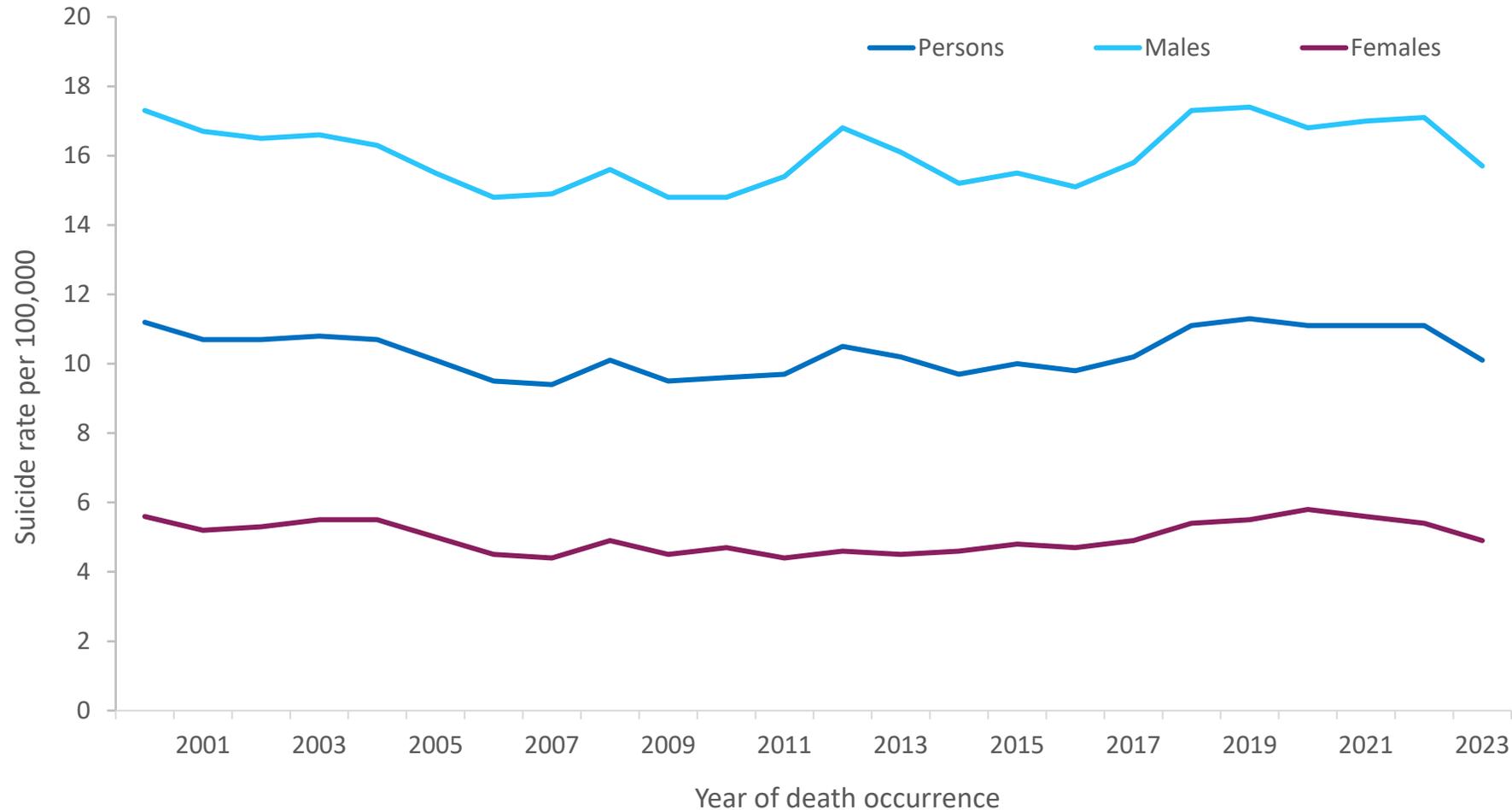
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Applies to England

# Suicide by women



# Suicide rate in general population, England and Wales, occurrences



**Two thirds  
are men**

**Highest  
suicide rate  
in men in  
mid-life**

# Suicide by men, England and Wales



**We're Against Living Miserably. Are you with us?**



**#ANDYSMANCLUB**

**SUICIDE IS THE BIGGEST KILLER OF MEN UNDER 45**  
**1 MAN EVERY 2 HOURS**

**ALL OUR GROUPS MEET MONDAY 7PM**

**TO FIND YOUR NEAREST GROUP VISIT OUR WEBSITE**  
**WWW.ANDYSMANCLUB.CO.UK**

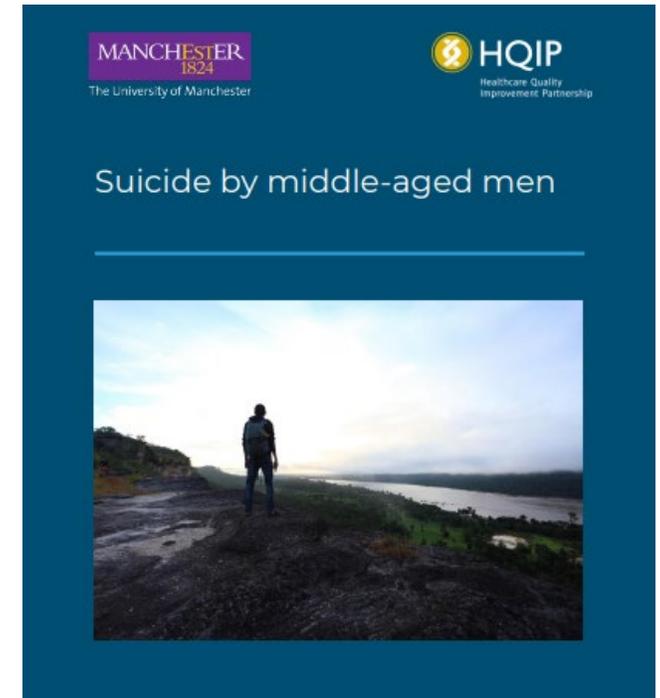
**JOIN THE CONVERSATION**

- andysmanclub
- andysmanclubuk
- @andysmanclubuk
- info@andysmanclub.co.uk

**#ITSOKAYTOTALK**

We are a peer to peer support group for men. Come have a brew and a chat!

**Two thirds  
are men**



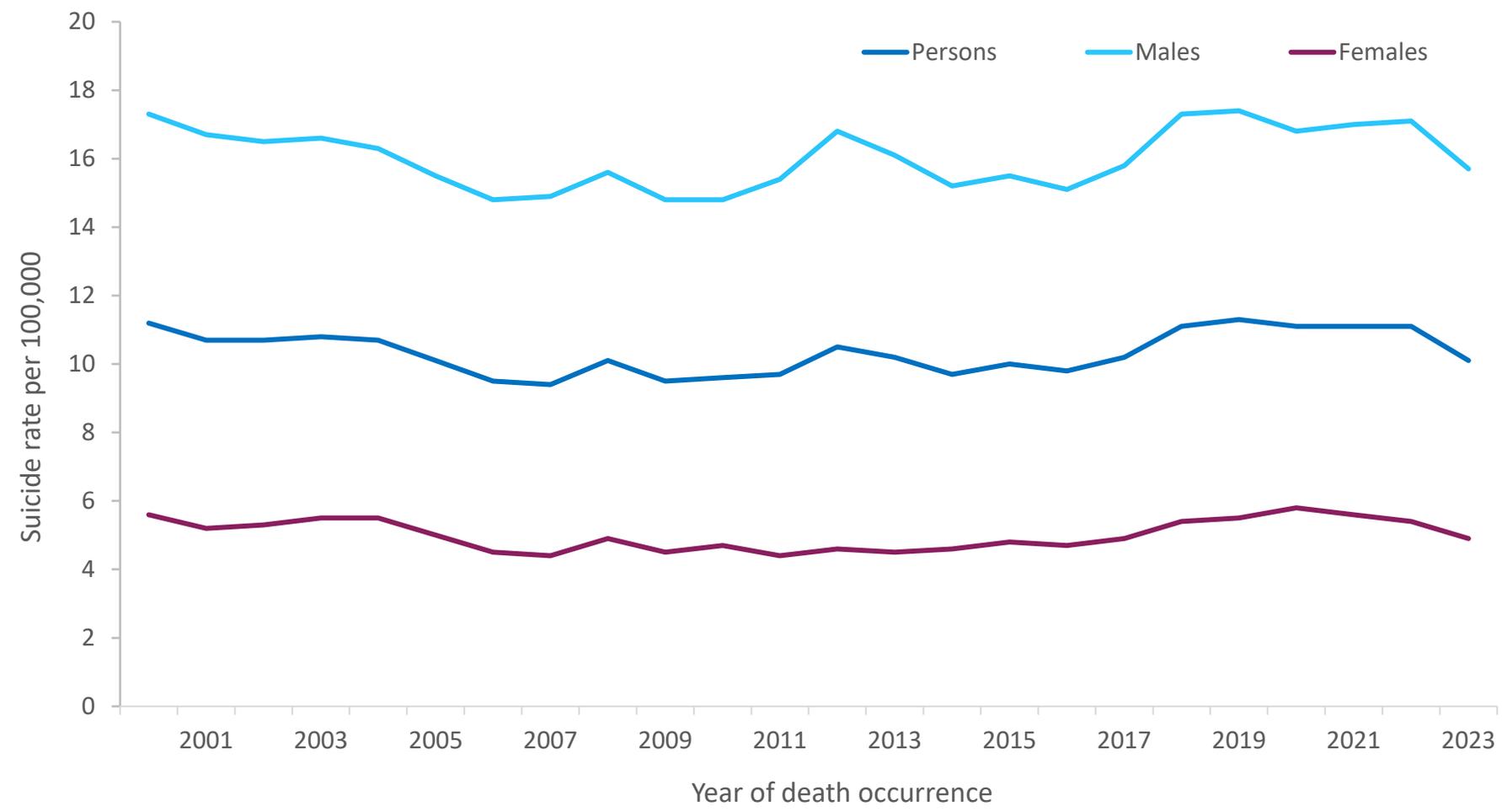
MANCHESTER 1824  
The University of Manchester

HQIP  
Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership

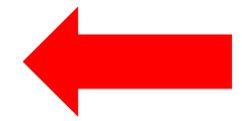
Suicide by middle-aged men



# Suicide rate in general population, England and Wales, occurrences



**Two thirds  
are men**



# Domestic violence and suicide by women under the care of mental health services

## Co-authors

Dr Isabelle M Hunt

Tim Woodhouse

Dr Helen Monk

Professor Nav Kapur

Professor Sir Louis Appleby





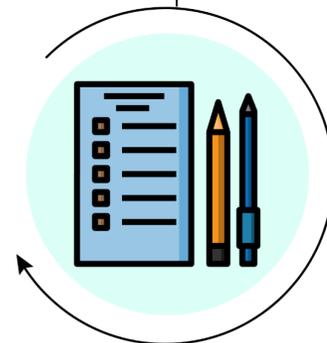
**Stage 1**  
National

**22% of men** who die by suicide are mental health patients

**Stage 2**  
Identification of mental health patients



**35% of women** who die by suicide are mental health patients



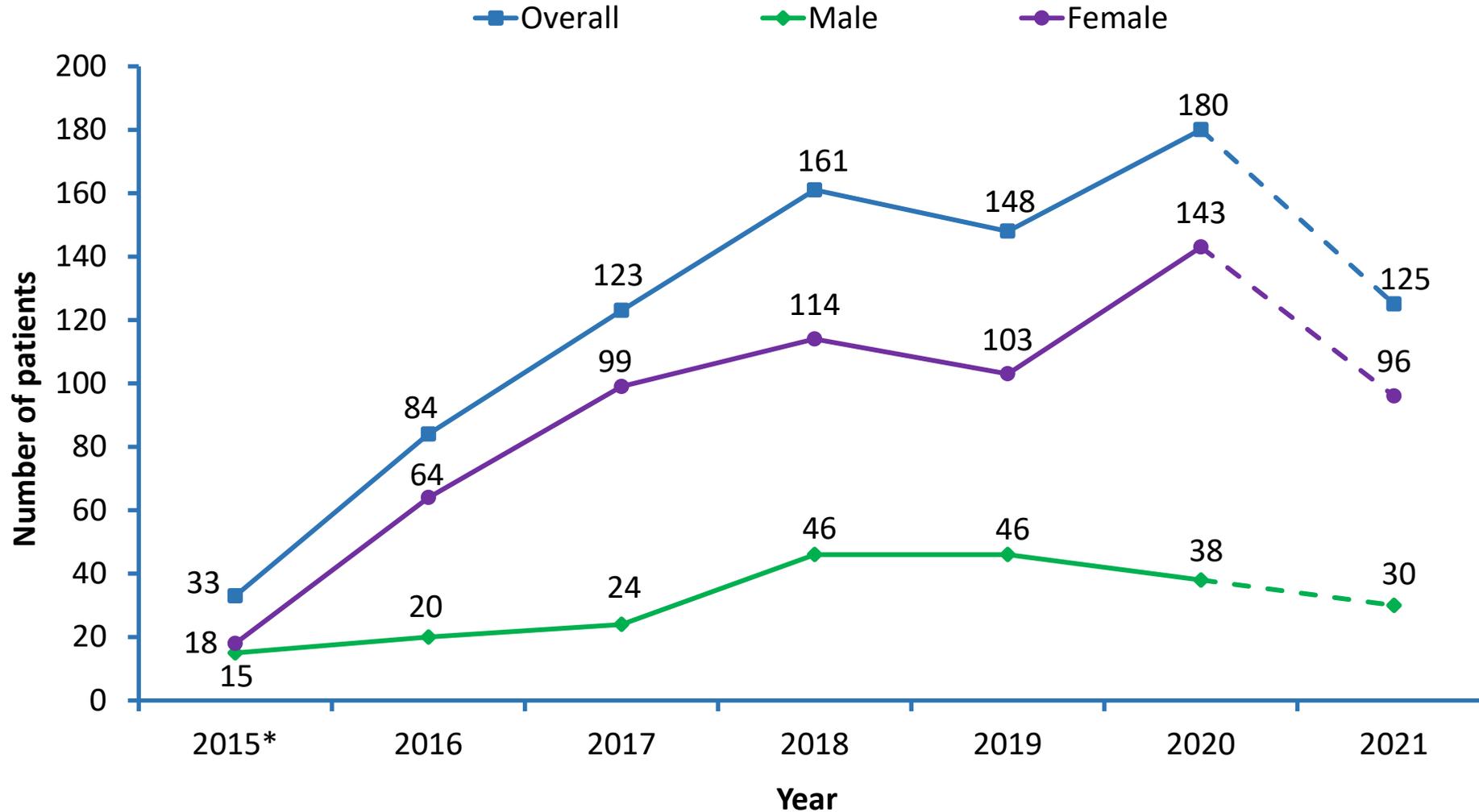
**Stage 3**  
Detailed data collection via questionnaire

## 3.22 Domestic/intimate partner violence, i.e. as a victim

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 0 | No                               |
| 1 | Sexual assault                   |
| 2 | Physical assault                 |
| 3 | Both sexual and physical assault |

**Psychological/emotional abuse**

# Domestic violence



**Missing Data**

- 2015 – 86%\*
- 2016 – 44%
- 2017 – 31%
- 2018 – 24%
- 2019 – 24%
- 2020 – 27%
- 2021 – 27%

## 3.22 Domestic/intimate partner violence, i.e. as a victim

- 0 No
- 1 Sexual assault
- 2 Physical assault
- 3 Both sexual and physical assault

**A quarter (26%) of all female patients who die by suicide  
630 women (2015-2021)**

# Social factors



**Most women had recent adverse events (66% vs. 50%)**

## **Most often**

- Serious financial issues
- Job, benefits or housing loss
- Family issues

**More often  
living alone,  
unmarried,  
unemployed**

**Discharged to  
alcohol or drug  
misuse problem,  
poor social  
support**



More diagnoses of Personality Disorder (33% vs. 16%) and PTSD (13% vs. 4%)

Most had comorbid mental health diagnosis (70% vs. 58%)



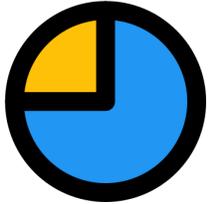
~Half of these women had a combination of:  
self-harm, comorbid diagnosis, alcohol/drug misuse

# Key messages

A blurred background image of a busy city street with many pedestrians walking. The image is overlaid with a white rectangular box in the upper center containing the text "Key messages". The background shows a diverse group of people in various clothing, some carrying bags, moving through a city square or street with buildings and signs in the background.

# What does this mean?

25%



One in four female mental health patients who died by suicide had experienced domestic violence

High-risk group with intersecting disadvantages

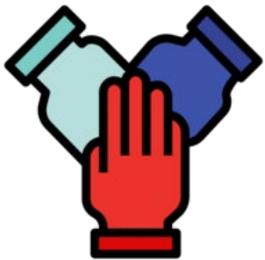


A public health approach would be effective:  
economic, employment and housing support



**Assessments or formulations should ask about violence**

**Services need to respond to clinical complexity in the context of social disadvantage**



**MH training for DV practitioners, DV training in MH**



# NCISH



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