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ACRATH COLLABORATE TO EDUCATE, DETECT AND PREVENT ON WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, observed annually today, 30 July, brings global attention to human trafficking, urging vigilance and action to prevent this crime. This year, ACRATH is driving prevention by promoting free access to healthcare screening tools and professional development modules.

The 'Building Clinician Confidence' series offers free, online, on-demand modules co-designed with survivors of modern slavery, St Vincent's Health Australia, the NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner, and the University of Notre Dame, with support from the Australian Government's Attorney-General's Department.

Modern slavery in Australia remains hidden in plain sight and often overlaps with family violence, homelessness, substance dependence, mental illness, or disability. Healthcare professionals are uniquely positioned to identify, respond, and refer them to specialist support.

The free modules feature filmed simulations of real case studies, guiding clinicians in trauma-informed care responses. They are suitable for nurses, doctors, social workers, psychologists, pastoral carers, speech pathologists, pharmacists, dietitians, peer support workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and managers.



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Emergency department staff are a vital safety net; research shows most trafficking victims engage with healthcare during exploitation. Recognising warning signs is essential for connecting victims to critical support.

“ACRATH’s contribution directly translates to improving the recognition of modern slavery survivors, which is the biggest challenge facing the anti-slavery sector,” said Tarang Jain, Modern Slavery Liaison Officer, St Vincent’s Health Australia.

In 2026, clinicians were instrumental in the [conviction of a Melbourne](#) man found guilty of possessing a woman as a slave. Chris Evans, Australian Anti-Slavery Commissioner, stated, “This confirms modern slavery is not only a Commonwealth criminal justice issue – it is a public health issue that requires greater engagement with the states. Healthcare and other frontline workers are uniquely placed to identify and support victim-survivors.” *

“These modules for health care workers, along with the Educating for Change modules targeted at university students across various disciplines, offer a great opportunity to build awareness of modern slavery among professionals. There is so much more work to be done, but every new participant means more support for victim/survivors,” said Sarah Puls, Executive Officer of ACRATH.

ACRATH is grateful for the invitation to partner with the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation to share and amplify our prevention message today for World Day Against Trafficking in Persons on a billboard, along with messages from other organisations that partner with the AFP Human Exploitation branch.

Access the free modules here:

<https://acrath.org.au/resources/healthcare-education/>

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* Click here for the full statement - Chris Evans, Australian Anti-Slavery Commissioner