

Looking  
beyond  
symptoms

2012

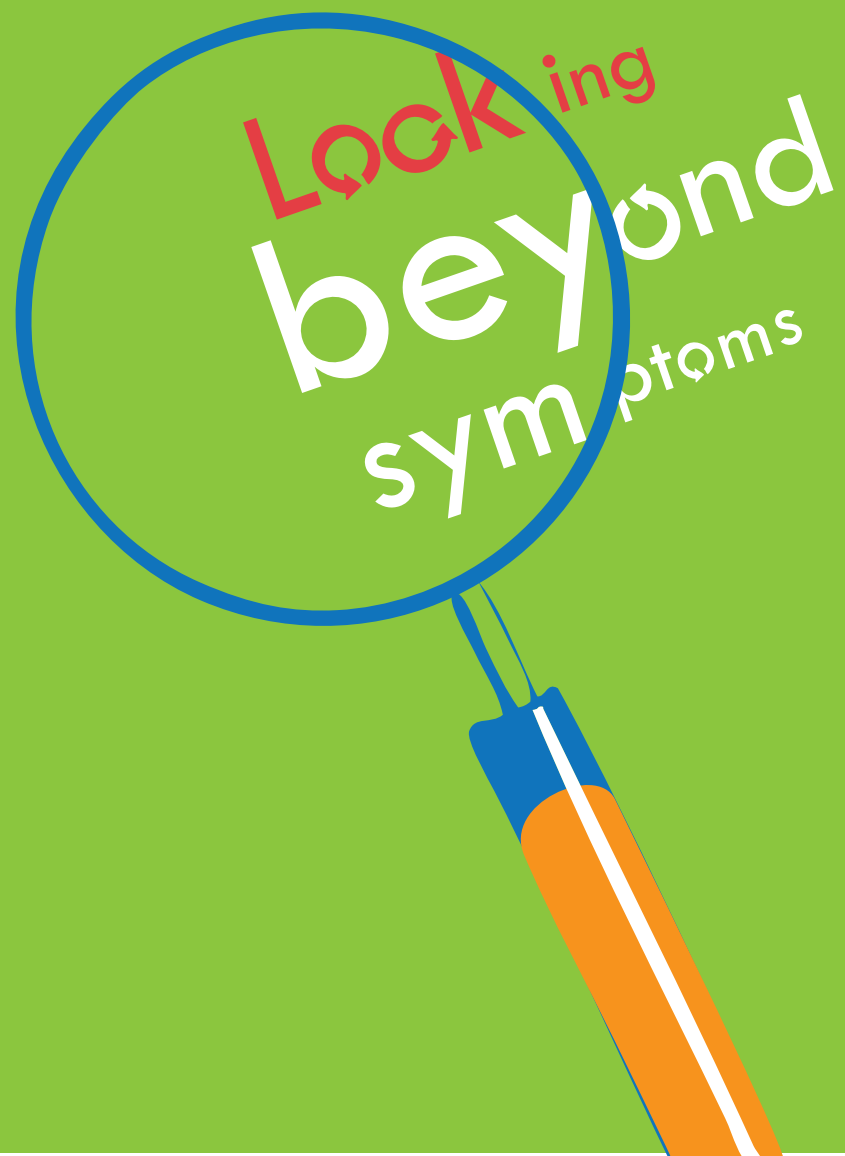


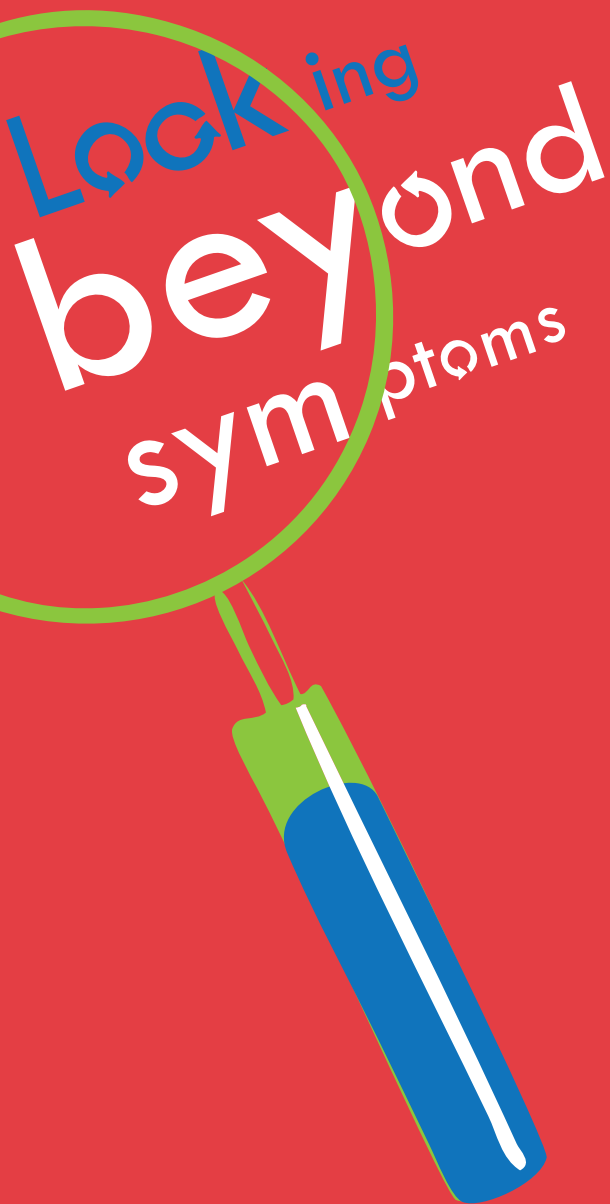
# About the Calendar

Violence Against Women results in physical and/or psychological health consequences. In this calendar, we depict some commonly observed health problems that show an association with violence. As a health care provider, you must:

- Screen for domestic violence, while ensuring privacy and assuring confidentiality
- Believe her
- Provide Treatment
- Document current and past episodes of violence for medico-legal purposes
- Give her information about the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (PWDVA)
- Prepare a Domestic Incident Report (DIR) and forward it to the nearest Protection Officer or magistrate's court if she so desires
- Refer her for counselling services to centres such as Dilaasa

These components of care are imperative and are a right of the survivor of abuse who reports to a hospital.





## Dilaasa

Dilaasa, India's first hospital-based crisis centers for responding to women facing domestic violence, has been functioning in two hospitals in Mumbai for the past 10 years. This initiative was based on the premise that violence against women is a health issue and that health professionals have a critical role to play in responding to it. The two core functions of Dilaasa are provision of counselling services and training of health care providers to understand the issue of violence against women. A training cell has been initiated, which consists of sensitive health care providers who train their peers on the issue of violence. Trainings equip health care providers to identify women patients who may be facing violence, screen them sensitively and refer them to the counseling center. As of now, the training cell spans 5 hospitals run by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai – K.B.Bhabha Hospital (Bandra), K.B.Bhabha Hospital (Kurla), Rajawadi Hospital (Ghatkopar), Cooper Hospital (Vile Parle) and M.T.Agarwal Hospital (Mulund) – and consists of 56 health care providers.

## CEHAT

CEHAT (Center for Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes) is a multi-disciplinary institution conducting socially relevant health related research, training, service and advocacy. CEHAT is the research center of the Anusandhan Trust, which is governed democratically through participatory management and upholds the principles of transparency, social accountability and ethics.

## Thank you!

We would like to thank CEHAT's Program Development Committee, Manisha Gupte, Aruna Burte and CEHAT and Dilaasa staff for their feedback and suggestions. You could support CEHAT's work on Violence Against Women through donations to the Anusandhan Trust, registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950, Registration No.E-13480. You could also avail an 80-G exemption for all donations made by cheques/demand draft to Anusandhan Trust. All cheques/demand drafts should be drawn in favour of 'ANUSANDHAN TRUST – CEHAT' payable at Mumbai.

# January

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
32	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

# February

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				

Every month, several women are admitted to the hospital for “accidental consumption of poison”. Probing in a non-judgmental manner often reveals that it was in fact an attempt to end their lives.



# Consumption

of poison

“

*I am in love with a boy from my college but my parents are against this relationship. I am not being allowed to go out, even to my college. I felt miserable so I consumed 10 sleeping pills.*

”

# March

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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# April

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30						

Very often, women report with unwanted pregnancies, requesting MTPs. This is not because women are irresponsible, but because pregnancies are forced on them.



# Abortion

“

*I have four children and I am pregnant again. I do not want any more children, but my husband refuses to use contraception and does not allow me either.*

”

# May

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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# June

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

**Disclosure of HIV status is likely to trigger off violence in women's lives. Forced sex and refusal to use contraception are forms of violence that predispose women to HIV and STIs.**



# HIV

“ I looked after my ailing husband alone. After his death I found out that he had AIDS; now my daughter and I are HIV positive. My in laws have thrown us out of the house.”

# July

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# August

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27	28	29	30	31		

Childlessness is often equated with a woman's inability to conceive without even testing the husband. Research shows that a greater percentage of childless women experience violence as compared those who have children.

# Inferility

“

*I have been married for five years and have no child. My husband has been threatening me that he will remarry. The doctor has asked him to get tested as well, but he refuses.*

”

# September

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# October

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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29	30	31				

Son preference is deeply rooted in our society and women face violence if they are unable to give birth to a male child. Pressurising a woman to have a male child is a form of domestic violence.

# Sex Selection



“

*When my first child – a girl – was born, my husband and in-laws were not happy. They used to taunt me for not having a son. I am pregnant again and my family is pressurising me to find out the sex of the child.*

”



# November

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

# December

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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The experience of abuse puts women at a greater risk of anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and substance abuse. Conversely, women who have a mental health problem also face violence and desertion by their families.

# Anxiety

“

*As a child I was sexually abused, by a family member for a long time. I lived in constant fear and the stress would give me severe headaches. I am now constantly anxious and get palpitations when my daughter is out of my sight.*

”



**Dilaasa**



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### **Dilaasa**

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