PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Interpersonal violence occurs to approximately 5.3 million people yearly (mostly women), that can result in death. Historically, FMH treated wounds, but offered little additional assistance. Now we connect our patients with immediate domestic violence services available to help with immediate and/or long-term safety plans, shelter and legal expertise.

METHODOLOGY
FMH is one of two Maryland hospitals modeling a Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) which has been piloted by first responders in law enforcement since 2005. The assessment tool. The assessment tool was implemented by the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) and developed by Dr. Jackie Campbell of Johns Hopkins University.

IMPLEMENTATION
The assessment is part of the Joint Commission STANDARD pc.01.02.09. All ED nurses were educated on assessing patients for domestic violence. A workflow was implemented at FMH, providing a mandatory subjective question that must be answered during the triage process: “Is there any indication, suspicion or belief of possible abuse?” If the answer is “yes,” a LAP form prints from an online documentation record. Protocol requires the patient be taken to a private location to complete the LAP and initiate contact with Heartly House, our advocacy partner.

The Lethality Assessment Program (“LAP”) was for field practitioners to:
- Identify victims of domestic violence who are at the greatest risk of being killed;
- Remove them from harm’s way, if necessary;
- Get victims into domestic violence services.

MEASURABLE OUTCOMES
One of the main goals of the LAP is to prevent intimate partner homicides. Over the last three years, Maryland has seen a 41% reduction in IP homicides from:
- 56 (2007-2008);
- 45 (2008-2009);
- 33 (2009-2010);
14 confirmed for this year which ended on June 30th

COLLABORATION AND LEADERSHIP
Teamwork and collaboration was utilized throughout the planning of the LAP, by a multi-disciplinary team including the MNADV, Heartly House, and FMH (SAFE team, directors of the ED & Medical Records, IT, Management, Privacy Officer, TODD, ED nurses). All supported the Hospital and ED’s implementation of the Lethality Assessment Program.

SCREENS INITIATED BY HOSPITAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Lethality Screens Per Pop. (1 LS/yr.)</th>
<th>&quot;High Danger&quot;</th>
<th>Met w/Spoke w/Advocate</th>
<th>Continued in Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Memorial</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>07 (54%)</td>
<td>03 (43%)</td>
<td>02 (67%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FMH - CY 2010 YTD</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>47 (71%)</td>
<td>32 (68%)</td>
<td>17 (53%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick County Law Enforcement</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>70 (91%)</td>
<td>47 (67%)</td>
<td>33 (70%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GROWTH
Frederick Memorial Hospital has become the model for three additional hospitals in the State of Maryland that are in the process of implementing the Lethality Assessment Program. Ongoing consultations ensue.