Behind the Smile: Human Trafficking Awareness in Dentistry

Objectives:

* The learner will be able to define human trafficking.
* The learner will be able to identify signs of human trafficking.
* The learner will be able to differentiate between the various types of human trafficking.
* The learner will be able to appropriately document and report signs of victimization.
* The learner will be able to develop a protocol to identify and respond to human trafficking victims.
* The learner will be able to assemble a network of resources for human trafficking victims.

Abstract:

Each year, millions of individuals fall victim to human trafficking, facing forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Dental professionals are uniquely positioned to make a difference in this battle, as they possess the expertise to recognize physical signs of abuse and abnormalities in the head and neck region. This presentation seeks to clarify prevalent misconceptions about human trafficking and its victims while providing dental professionals with the necessary tools to identify indicators of abuse effectively. Attendees will learn the appropriate steps to take when suspecting human trafficking, including the use of sensitive language when communicating with potential victims. By the end of this session, participants will be empowered to contribute actively to the fight against human trafficking in their practice and community.