Assessment of Human Trafficking Awareness
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Background
Human trafficking, modern day slavery, is thriving on a global scale (Peters, 2013). INTERPOL, the world's largest police organization reported that human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar enterprise (Smith, 2016). According to Interpol, smuggling people is now the third most profitable activity for organized crime worldwide” (Smith, 2016, p. 34). The Federal Bureau of Investigation in the United States reported that human trafficking may be the “third largest criminal activity in the world” (FBI, 2016). The Ohio Department of Health reported that human trafficking is one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world (2016). Literature identified nurses and other healthcare workers in working in emergency departments, physician offices, and urgent care centers as being positioned to identify and rescue victims of human trafficking (Peters, 2013). Currently there is limited if any content that included in curriculum in medicine and nursing to inform these healthcare providers about how to identify victims of human trafficking and then how to effectively access or provide support for victims of human trafficking.

Purpose
This study was conducted to assess Toledo, Ohio area emergency department nurses and physician knowledge of: indicators of human trafficking and resources to help victims of human trafficking. The study design also provided education to participants regarding: indicators of human trafficking and available resources to rescue.

Methods
This quantitative study was approved by The University of Toledo Social & Behavioral Science Institutional Review Board; also approved by the Mercy Health Systems and ProMedica Health Systems Institutional Review Boards. A convenience sample of employees working in the nine Toledo, Ohio area emergency departments on the day scheduled for data collection who provided informed consent were provided a Human Trafficking Awareness Survey for self-administration. Survey data was entered into SPSS 23 and frequencies tables of were run on recognition of indicators of human trafficking, demographics of participants, and awareness of resources to rescue.

Data Collection
The Human Trafficking Awareness Survey (HTAS) a one-page instrument (front and back) was developed from a review of literature from 2004-2014 using key words: human trafficking, emergency departments, assessment, signs, symptoms, healthcare providers, sex trafficking, trafficking, minors, knowledge, and protocol. HTAS included 14-items, six demographic items and eight items specific to human trafficking, and took approximately ten minutes to complete.

Results
Table 1.1 through Table 1.10 demonstrate that indicators of human trafficking are fairly well known by emergency department personnel in the Toledo, Ohio area, although inconsistently in recognition of some of the indicators of human trafficking was noted.

Conclusion
Human trafficking is modern day slavery and a multi-million dollar global industry. Emergency department nurses and physicians are positioned to identify, rescue, and help these victims. Unfortunately, not all nurses and physicians working in emergency departments are educated to enable them to identify and help victims of human trafficking. The benefits of this work is self-evident. If one more person is identified, rescued, and helped than it was a meaningful work.

Recommendations
The results of this study support a need to further education and including inclusion in curricular plans in healthcare provider programs. This study assessed the knowledge level of nurses and physicians working in Toledo, Ohio area emergency departments about indicators of and available resources to help rescue victims of human trafficking. It also was instrumental in providing education to these professionals about indicators of human trafficking and available resources to rescue and help these victims. The benefits of this work is self-evident. If one more person is identified, rescued, and helped than it was a meaningful work.