

Every year, thousands of survivors of torture, trafficking, sexual violence, and other human rights abuses seek asylum in the UK. Many endure chronic physical pain and severely debilitating psychological symptoms including depression, PTSD, and suicidal thoughts.

Most survivors will interact, often repeatedly, with GPs and A&E in the UK. Yet the vast majority are never asked about the abuses they have suffered. When harm is not recognised, it is not recorded. No record can mean poor healthcare and missed opportunities to provide support and ensure safety.

TortureID (TID) exists to change this. We have developed a practical, scalable, and innovative approach to a gap no one else is filling: equipping routine healthcare to recognise survivors earlier, record harm safely, and open pathways to care, safety, and rehabilitation.

OUR MODEL

1. We help clinicians recognise survivors earlier

We train clinicians to notice when pain, distress, or repeated appointments may be linked to torture or other serious human rights abuses, and to respond with care and confidence.

2. We give clinicians practical tools

We create simple prompts, clinical letter templates, and guidance for use in busy healthcare settings. These help clinicians record key information, identify risks, take appropriate next steps, and respond to common requests around housing, asylum support, safeguarding, and healthcare access.

3. We provide specialist Health Assessments

Some survivors need more time and clinical depth than routine NHS appointments can offer. Our hour-long, trauma-informed Health Assessments identify and document the impact of torture and abuse, with an emphasis on health needs and safety concerns. A detailed clinical letter is produced and fed into NHS records, helping to support future care, practical support, and protection.

4. We use learning to change the system

We capture learning from survivors, clinicians, and referrers to improve practice, demonstrate impact, and refine and scale our model. This evidence base guides our training and gives us authority when we speak to NHS and other leaders.

OUR IMPACT SO FAR

380+ Health Assessments completed

40,000+ clinicians reached through safeguarding guidance

1000+ practical letter template downloads

1,300+ clinicians and learners trained

100% of GP trainees would recommend the training

'ASKING' is now being positively promoted by NHS leaders

WHY THIS MATTERS

Our evidence shows why this work is urgently needed:

88% of people seen had significant unmet mental health needs

60% had physical findings attributed to abuse

8% were at significant short-term risk of suicide

Yet the majority had no previous record of the abuse they had experienced.

WHAT WE NEED NOW:

TortureID is at a pivotal stage. We have a strong proof of concept, growing demand and a clear strategy for wider uptake. To move from promising innovation to sustainable impact, we need support to strengthen the systems around our doctors, so they can focus on the specialist medical work only they can do.

We are especially looking for expertise, advice, introductions and pro bono support with systems change, impact and data, communications, fundraising & financial sustainability, Board recruitment, and advisory networks.

Support in any of these areas would help us reach more survivors and embed recognition, documentation, and response into routine healthcare.

SUPPORT NEEDED:

SCALING SYSTEMS CHANGE AND INFLUENCING:

Expert challenge and practical support to strengthen the systems-change pathway we have developed, helping us move from proof of concept to wider uptake. This includes ensuring evidence, learning, and survivor-informed insights effectively inform policy and practice.

IMPACT, SOCIAL VALUE, AND DATA COLLECTION:

Support to evidence TID's wider social value and present it convincingly to funders, NHS commissioners, professional bodies, and public services. Support also to ensure that as our use of sensitive data grows, data integrity and proportionate safeguards continue to be embedded in our systems.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY AND POSITIONING:

Support to strengthen how TID explains and positions its complex and sensitive work, building our profile, improving our website and broader digital presence, and communicating in ways that build trust with survivor, clinical, and funder audiences.

FUNDRAISING STRATEGY AND FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:

Advice and networks to help secure longer-term financial backing and diversify income streams, alongside support to strengthen budgeting and financial oversight.

BOARD RECRUITMENT AND ADVISORY NETWORKS:

Support to diversify our Board and wider network of advisors, ambassadors, and supporters, particularly through survivor leadership, finance expertise, and well-connected individuals who can help raise TID's profile, extend our reach, and open up longer-term strategic and funding opportunities.



Find out more at
TORTUREID.ORG
or by scanning the
QR code

CONTACT US AT:
admin@tortureid.org