More than 1 in 5 women seeking care following abuse have reported living with at least one type of disability. These women may have unique needs. It is critical as a provider of health services for women who have experienced abuse to consider the following:

**Conduct**
- Have you been trained to identify, assess and manage psychological issues that may range in severity?
- Have you been trained to work with women living with physical, sensory, and/or cognitive disabilities?
- Are you aware of the proper etiquette for working with service animals?

**Environment**
- Is the building accessible? (e.g. step free access/ramps, automated door opening, floor indicators)
- Is the space manoeuvrable? (e.g. surrounding objects detectable by those using a cane, uncluttered spaces)
- Are there specialized examination tables?
- Are Teletypewriters (TTY) on site?
  - Have you been trained on the appropriate use of a TTY?
- Have you been trained in the use of the Bell Relay Service (BRS)?
  - Are you aware of the BRS phone number?

**Resources**
- Is there access to a mental health professional?
- Is there access to an ASL interpreter?
- Are materials available in alternate formats/methods? (e.g. large print, braille, raised letters, readers)
- Are you aware of community-based disability related services?

To learn more about providing services to survivors living with disabilities, visit the “Resources for Service Providers” section of our website at www.sadvtreatmentcentres.ca