

## Strangulation Assessment in Family Violence Cases

Officers should look for, ask about and document the following:

**Scratches** \_\_\_\_\_

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Scratches may have been inflicted by the assailant or the victim who is trying to release the choke-hold.

**Bruises** \_\_\_\_\_

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Bruises, although you should go back a day or two later because they may not be visible yet.

**Spots on the face and/or neck** \_\_\_\_\_

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Spots on the face and/or neck due to blood vessels bursting from the pressure of a choke-hold.

**Blood-red eyes** \_\_\_\_\_

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Blood-red eyes due to capillary rupture in the white portion of the eyes.

**Rope, cord burns or other linear injuries** \_\_\_\_\_

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Rope or cord burns or other linear injuries caused by an object used to throttle the victim.

**Neck swelling** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Raspy breath** \_\_\_\_\_

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