SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF STRANGULATION

(VISIBLE SIGNS MAY NOT BE PRESENT)

NEUROLOGICAL SCALP Loss of memory Fainting Petechiae (tiny red spots) Loss of consciousness Urination Bald spots (from hair being pulled) Behavioral changes Defecation • Swelling on the head (from blunt force trauma or falling to the ground) Loss of sensation Vomiting Extremity weakness Dizziness Difficulty speaking Headaches **EYES & EYELIDS EARS** Petechiae to eyeball Petechiae to eyelid Ringing in ears Bloody red eyeball(s) Petechiae on earlobe(s) Vision changes Bruising behind the ear Droopy eyelid Bleeding in the ear MOUTH **FACE** Bruising Petechiae Swollen tongue Scratch marks Swollen lips Facial drooping Cuts/abrasions Swelling Internal Petechiae **CHEST NECK** Redness Chest pain Redness Scratch marks Finger nail impressions Scratch marks Bruising (thumb or fingers) Bruising Abrasions Swelling Ligature or Clothing Marks **VOICE & THROAT CHANGES** Raspy or hoarse voice Coughing **BREATHING CHANGES** Unable to speak Nausea Illustration & Graphics by Yesenia Aceves Difficulty breathing Trouble swallowing Drooling Respiratory distress Painful to swallow Sore throat Unable to breathe Clearing the throat Stridor

Source: Strangulation in Intimate Partner Violence, Chapter 16, Intimate Partner Violence. Oxford University Press, Inc. 2009.

