Resources

Sexual Assault Resource Service…….612-873-5832
HCMC SARS, 02.220
701 Park Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Emergency Departments Served by SARS

Abbott Northwestern Hospital....................612-863-4233
Fairview-Southdale Hospital.....................952-924-5138
Hennepin County Medical Center..............612-873-3132
Methodist Hospital................................952-993-5353
Maple Grove Hospital.............................763-581-1200
North Memorial Medical Center...............763-520-5542
U of M West Bank Hospital (Riverside)......612-273-6402
U of M West Bank Hospital (University)....612-273-2700
Fairview Ridges Hospital.........................612-863-4233
Northfield Hospital...............................612-863-4233
Regina Medical Center............................612-863-4233

Other Resources

Sexual Violence Center Crisis Line..........612-571-5111
The Aurora Center Crisis Line (U of M).....612-626-9111
HCMC Acute Psychiatric Services..........612-873-3161
Minneapolis Police Investigator.............612-673-3081
County Attorney Sexual Assault Advocate...612-348-4243
Crime Victims Reparations Board..........1-888-622-8799
or 651-201-7300

Hennepin County Medical Center provides services without regard to race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, public assistance or national origin.
What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual Assault is any form of unwanted sexual contact as a result of force, threats, coercion or lack of consent. Sexual assault can occur between relatives, partners, acquaintances, and strangers. Victims can be from any social class, age, gender or sexual orientation; they can be children, adolescents, adults and people in later life. Those who have been victimized through trafficking or prostitution can also be victims of sexual assault.

No one has the right to touch, force, threaten or have sexual contact with you without your consent.

No matter the circumstances, you did not deserve to be raped.

Sexual assault can happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere. It is not your fault. We know you couldn't control what happened, no matter the circumstances.

Following a sexual assault you might feel helpless, lonely, shocked, angry, fearful, depressed, anxious, embarrassed or ashamed. Sexual assault is a traumatic event; each person reacts in a different way and experiences a wide variety of emotions. This is perfectly normal.

Our Services

We are here to serve you. You will be cared for by a skilled and highly trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). Your SANE will explain what will happen while you are in the Emergency Department, answer any questions you may have. Your SANE can help promote healing and recovery and provide you with resources for counseling after you leave.

The Exam

Your SANE will carry out a special exam which involves:

- Collecting and saving evidence, including documenting injuries, that will be needed if you choose to report your sexual assault to law enforcement,
- Evaluating your risk for pregnancy and discussing safe prevention options,
- Evaluating your risk of contracting a sexually transmitted infection and offering you medication to reduce that risk,
- Further evaluating and documenting injuries (some injuries may require additional medical care from the Emergency Department staff), and
- Providing you with resources to help during your recovery. This will include advocate services, agencies for medical follow-up, information about reporting this crime to law enforcement, information about the Crime Victims Reparations Fund and many other resources.

Choosing to be seen by a SANE is about your health and safety; you have the right to decline or accept any part of the exam at any time.

What if I’m not sure I want to report to law enforcement?

You do not need to decide if you want to report this sexual assault to law enforcement right away. You can discuss your options for reporting with your SANE, a sexual assault advocate, or your friends and family. If you decide to report after you leave the hospital the evidence collected during the exam will be saved for at least 30 days. If you have already reported your assault, your SANE will make sure that the correct law enforcement agency is made aware that evidence was collected.

How will this exam be paid for?

- The county in which you were assaulted is required by law to pay for your forensic exam.
- If you have injuries that require medical care, such as stitches or x-rays, your insurance will be billed if that is possible.
- Any charges beyond this will be covered by the hospital at which you were seen.
- If you have already reported this assault to Law Enforcement (or if you do so within 30 days following the assault) the Crime Victim's Reparations Board can help you pay for other related expenses such as therapy, replacing stolen items, missed wages and more.
- If you receive any bills for this exam please call the SARS office at 612-873-5832 as soon as possible. If there is no answer, you can leave a voicemail and we will return your call as soon as possible.