St. Joseph Healthcare St. Joseph Hospital



SAFE/SANE INTRO

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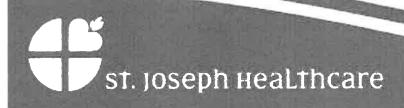
What is a SAFE or SANE?

- SAFE: Sexual Assault <u>Forensic</u> Examiner
 - Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners,
 Physician Assistants, and Physicians
- SANE: Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
 - Board certification through IAFN



Definition of a SAFE

A Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner is a health care provider who has been specially trained to provide comprehensive care for the sexual assault patient, who demonstrates competency in conducting a forensic exam, and has the ability to be an expert or fact witness in court.



State of Maine SAFE Program

- In Maine, the SAFE program is "housed" under DHHS, Office of Child and Family Services
- The SAFE Advisory Board issues recommendations for healthcare providers and these recommendations are intended to:
 - Promote the development of specialized skills necessary to provide comprehensive and quality medical-forensic care for the patient who has suffered sexual assault/abuse
 - Ensure training in the collection, documentation, and management of evidence collection during the medical forensic exam
 - Prepare healthcare providers to testify in legal proceedings

Did you know?

 There's separate training and certification requirements for adults/adolescents and pediatrics.

 Most SAFEs only care for sexual assault and child sexual abuse cases. ...BUT the SAFE program at St. Joseph Hospital cares for all victims of crime.

We are a comprehensive program covering sexual assault, domestic violence, strangulation, child abuse, elder abuse, and human trafficking.



St. Joe's STATs

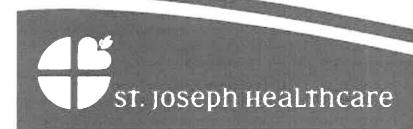
- 2016
 - 53 forensic exams (sexual assault)
- 2017
 - 64 forensic exams (sexual assault)
- 2018
 - 160 forensic exams
 - Addition of DV with and without non-fatal strangulation
- 2019
 - 162 forensic exams
 - 94% female; 6% male
 - 85% adult; 15% minors
 - 39% sexual assault
 - 41% domestic violence
 - 18.5% human trafficking
 - 12% other (assault, child abuse r/o)
 - 30% involved non-fatal strangulation

So what happens at the hospital?

Whatever the patient wants.

100% patient driven care.

IT'S MORE THAN JUST A "RAPE KIT"



WHAT HAPPENS AT THE HOSPITAL?

- SAFE/SANE
- Advocate
- Medical/Surgical History
- History of the assault
- Head-to-toe exam
- Document injuries
- Treatment for injuries
- STI prophylaxis
- Pregnancy prophylaxis

- Evidence collection....the kit
- Forensic photography
- Follow-up care planning
- Reassurance/emotional security
- Safety planning
- Report to LEO
- Expert testimony
- Confidentiality

MAINE STATE SEX CRIMES KIT

A victim of sexual assault has **FOUR** options

- 1. No evidence collection, No report.
- No evidence collection, Yes report.
- 3. Evidence collection*, No report.**
- 4. Evidence collection*, Yes report.***
- *as much or as little as they want
- **anonymous kit sent to local LE
- ***kit sent to LE covering location of SA

Payment/Billing for Sexual Assault Patients

- The Victim's Compensation Fund provides direct reimbursement to hospitals, up to \$750, for the sexual assault forensic examination (with evidence collection kit)
- The hospital may not bill for the SA or any balance over \$750
- The bill will be paid regardless of reporting status.
- If no kit done, the patient may be billed. We discuss this with the patient and navigate each patient's unique scenario accordingly (ex: student doesn't want parents to know but on parents insurance)

QUESTIONS?!

