

PICTURE GUIDE To The Exam After Sexual Assault for Self- Advocates



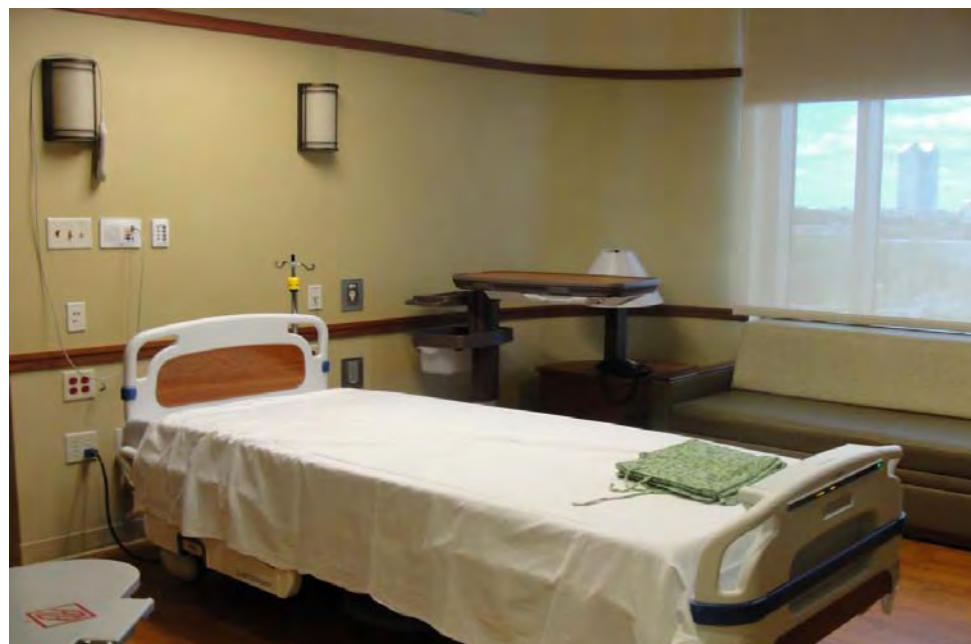


If someone sexually assaults you, it is not your fault. You can go to the hospital emergency room for help. You can have an exam to make sure you are ok. You have rights.





Tell the staff at the hospital that you have been sexually assaulted. You will be placed in an exam room. Your examination and any treatment you receive will be free.





If you want, a medical advocate will come to support you at the hospital.

The advocate will help you and comfort you.

She will give you important information.





A special nurse or other medical staff will come and tell you their name. They will tell you about the exam. You may ask for what you need.





Some people that are here to help you may have to report what you say. You can ask the medical staff about this.





Telling what happened to you will help the medical staff know how to best help you. You will have only the parts of the exam you need. You will help the medical staff know what to do.





The medical staff will tell you about the exam and ask you to sign a paper that says you want to have the exam.

THIS IS YOUR CHOICE.





The medical staff will ask you lots of questions so they know how best to help you.

They will ask you difficult questions about the assault.

Take your time.





Before the exam starts, the medical staff will open a box.

Inside the box are things for evidence collection.

Staff will get samples of evidence that the offender may have left on your body.

Illinois State Police
Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit

RD No. _____
 Bean/Unit Assigned _____
 Date of examination _____
 City _____

Patient _____
 Patient Address _____
 Hospital Name and Address _____
 Address Where Assault Occurred _____

Examining Health Professional _____ (print name) Signature _____
 Name _____ (print name) Signature _____

Transferred to law enforcement representative
 by _____ Signature _____
 Law enforcement agency _____ (print name) City _____
 Law enforcement representative _____ (print name) Signature _____

Date of pickup _____ Time of pickup _____

Notes

Evidence Tape

This kit is approved by the Illinois State Police



The box has many parts or steps.

You can say yes or no to any of the steps.

THIS IS YOUR CHOICE

Illinois State Police
Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit

Illinois State Police Seal

RD No. _____
 Beat/Unit Assigned _____
 Date of examination _____
 City _____

Patient _____
 Patient Address _____
 Hospital Name and Address _____
 Address Where Assault Occurred _____

Examining Health Professional _____ (print name) _____ Signature _____
 Nurse _____ (print name) _____ Signature _____

Transferred to law enforcement representative
 by _____ Signature _____
 Law enforcement agency _____ (print name) _____ City _____
 Law enforcement representative _____ (print name) _____ Signature _____

Date of pickup _____ Time of pickup _____

Notes

Evidence Tape

This kit is approved by the Illinois State Police



The evidence collected may be used in court if you say it is okay to give it to the police.





If you say okay,
your equipment
may be looked at
for evidence.





If you say okay, the medical staff will take your clothes and put them in paper bags.

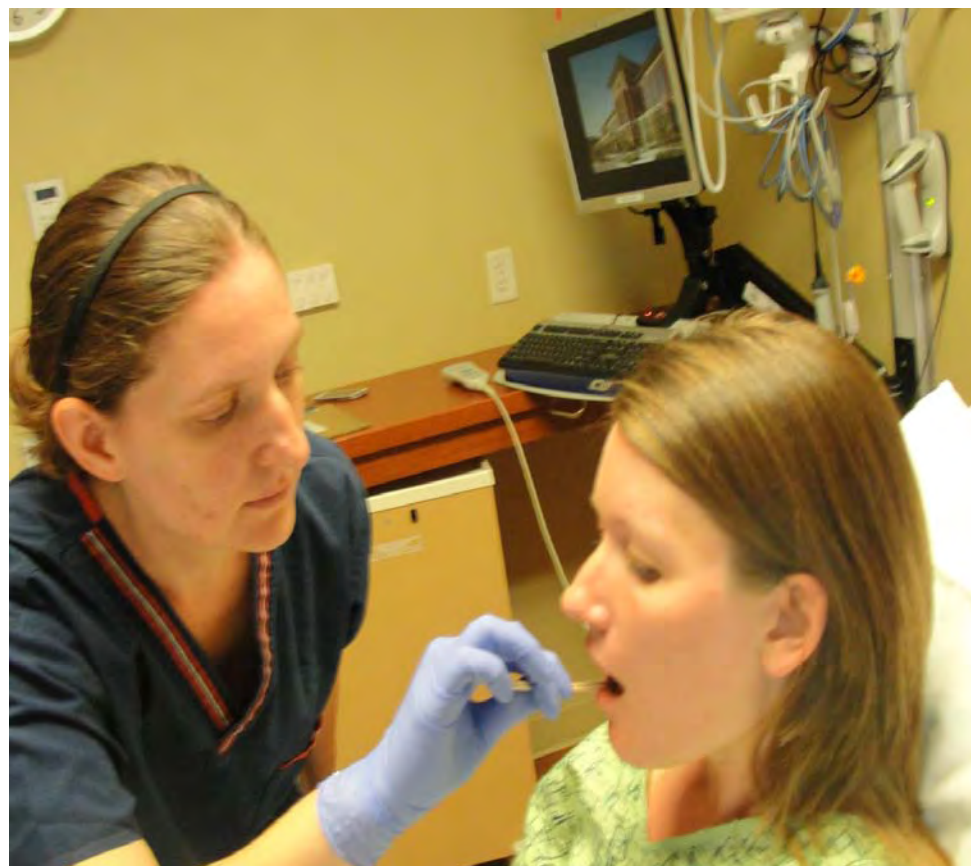
You will be given other clothes to wear.

This only happens if you are wearing the same clothes that you were wearing during the assault.





Next, if it is okay with you, the medical staff may wipe the inside of your mouth with a cotton swab.





The medical staff may comb your hair for evidence.

The person who hurt you may have left some evidence in your hair.





If it is okay with you, the medical staff may wipe other areas of your body with a swab.





The medical staff may need to scrape or swab under your fingernails.

You can say yes or no to this.





A special light may be used during the exam.

The light is used to look at your body to see if any areas glow.

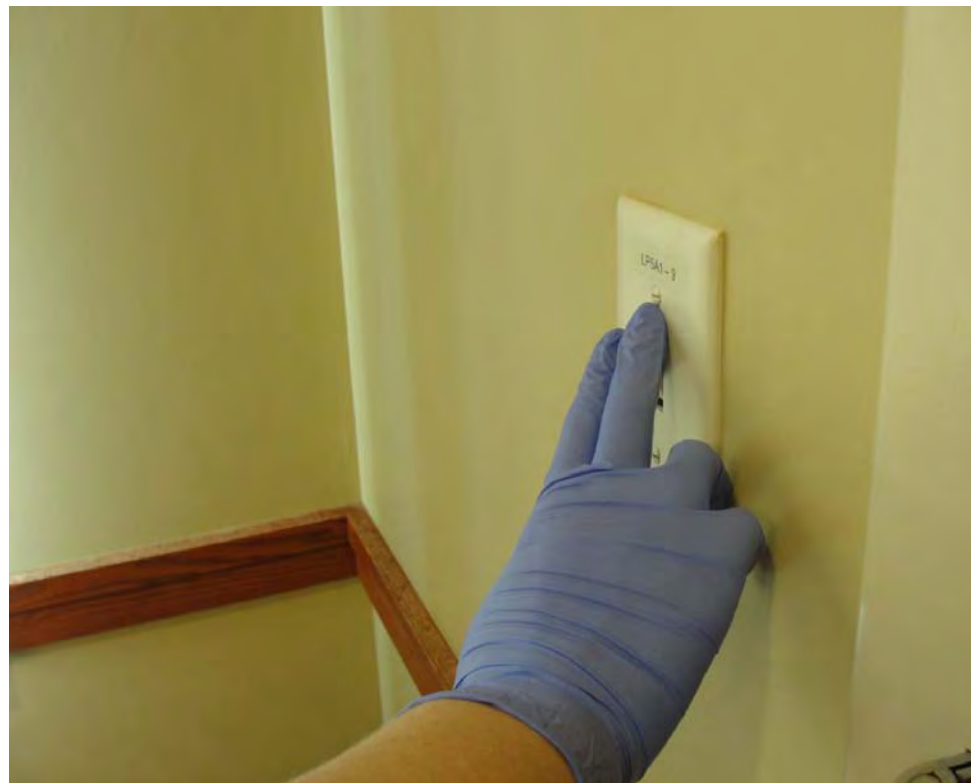
If an area glows, a cotton swab will be used to collect an evidence sample.





The medical staff will turn the lights out when using the special light.

The medical staff and the advocate will stay with you.





The medical staff will look over your body to see if you are hurt.

If you feel any pain, tell the staff so they can stop and also check for injuries.





A camera may be used to take pictures during the exam. You can say yes or no to having the pictures taken.





Based on what has happened to you, the medical staff may look at your genitals to look for injury and collect evidence.

The medical advocate can be beside you to support you during this part too.





If you are having a genital exam, a tool called a speculum may be used.

The speculum will be placed in your vagina to help medical staff see if you are okay inside.

You can say yes or no to this step.





The medical staff may ask you to lie back and come down to the end of the table.

If you are not able to do that, speak up. You can still have the exam.

Help the staff know what will work best for you. You know your body the best.





In many positions, you will be able to see the medical staff during the genital exam.

This may not be true for the position that is best for you.





You can be given medication to prevent sexually transmitted infections.

The medical staff will tell you about the risk of getting an infection.

They will also tell you what you need to do when you get back home.





There may be a chance you could become pregnant because of the assault.

The medical staff will tell you about the risk of becoming pregnant and what medications are available at the hospital to prevent pregnancy.

It is your choice whether you take the medicine.





The medical advocate will give you information on local services.

Services from the Rape Crisis Center are free to you and your family ... and important for your healing





Before you leave the hospital you will get a list of:

- medications given and the reason for taking them;
- things you can do at home to be healthy;
- suggestions for any follow-up steps;
- what was done at the hospital; and
- a voucher for follow-up services.





YOU ARE SO BRAVE!
THANK YOU.

