



Victims' Rights Regarding the Exam After Sexual Assault

A survivor with a disability has the exact same rights as any other survivor when reporting an assault, receiving medical care or going through the evidence collection process after the violence. A rape crisis center advocate can ensure you have the information you need to make decisions around these rights and procedures. You can refuse to participate in any part of the process or to any medical procedure. An advocate can make sure you have the information you need when making decisions and help you make these decisions known to the medical staff.

Survivors of sexual assault have the right to:

1. "free" medical care and evidence collection;
2. accommodations that you need and prefer;
3. a more private space;
4. have a rape crisis center advocate with you during the exam to help you know your rights and communicate your choices;
5. have a support person of your choice with you during the exam;
6. qualified staff who follow standard procedures;
7. request a medical staff member by gender, if available;
8. know what is being done and why;

9. ask questions about the exam and have information provided in a way you can understand;
10. say no to any part of the exam or the entire exam;
11. understand what you are signing;
12. NOT release the kit to anyone;
13. know results of any tests;
14. know what medicines are for;
15. have 'free' follow-up with a doctor of your choice and medications needed;
16. be informed about medications, risks, and options regarding pregnancy; and
17. choose whether or not to talk to the police and to have a support person with you if you choose to talk to the police.

[\[Insert rape crisis center information\]](#)