

**SAGINAW VALLEY  
MEDICAL CONTROL AUTHORITY  
PRACTICE PARAMETER**

**SEXUAL ASSAULT**

**FIRST RESPONDER/BASIC LIFE SUPPORT**

**I. Management**

- A. Preserve evidence whenever possible<sup>1</sup>
- B. Assure appropriate police agency has been notified<sup>2</sup>
- C. Designate one (1) technician to be responsible for ALL interactions with patients.<sup>3</sup>
- D. ABC's
- E. IPS<sup>4</sup>
- F. If medical emergency, follow appropriate protocol
- G. Arrange for transporting unit if not already accomplished by Medical Communications

**NOTIFY RECEIVING FACILITY**

**ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT**

**CONTACT MEDICAL CONTROL**

- H. Possible orders post radio contact

<sup>1</sup> Advise patient to not shower, change clothes, or dispose of pertinent objects. Patient may bring a change of clothing to the hospital to wear home, as the clothing being worn will be retrieved for evidence.

<sup>2</sup> The investigation of the circumstances surrounding the incident is the responsibility of the law enforcement agency. Police are responsible for the disposition of evidence.

<sup>3</sup> Communication Skills

- a. Maintain calm atmosphere. This is essential for the patient.
- b. Use sensitivity in asking victim for historical information.

<sup>4</sup> Special considerations-

- a. Red marks may disappear and your documentation may be the only witness that the victim was choked or struck, even though he/she stated it.
- b. Be alert for torn clothing, fragments of cloth, blood, or body fluids, etc. for they need to be preserved as evidence.
- c. If transport is refused, refer patient to support agency and/or hospital whenever possible.

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