



**HEALTH CARE SERVICES  
DIRECTIVE-ADULT  
Manual of Policies and Procedures**

Title

**SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Legal References (includes but is not limited to)	Related Policies/Procedures (includes but is not limited to)	Other References (includes but is not limited to)
IC 11-8-2-5 IC 34-4-12.6	01-02-101 02-01-115	National Correctional Healthcare Standards

I. PURPOSE:

This Health Care Service Directive (HCSD) describes the required response to alleged sexual assault occurring within the prison setting.

II. GUIDELINES:

- A. Any sexual act including sexual touching performed without the full consent of all participating parties is a sexual assault. Sexual assault is a criminal act. Sexual assault can result in physical injury and in emotional trauma. It is the responsibility of Health Services personnel responding to victims of sexual assault to treat physical injuries, help minimize emotional trauma, and preserve physical evidence (e.g. no clothing is removed or cleaned, no showers etc.).
- B. The initial assessment of an alleged sexual assault victim must include assessment of injury and determination of immediate health needs, provision of emergency care for trauma, and determination if the sexual assault was recent or remote. During the initial assessment a Correctional Officer (preferably of the same gender as the victim) shall be present both as a chaperone and to preserve security. Separation between the alleged victim and the alleged perpetrator shall be maintained with the assistance of Custody personnel when necessary.
- C. Clothing, objects, and other potential evidence shall be saved in clean paper bags usually completed by Office of Investigations and Intelligence Staff. Health services staff are responsible to ensure that any physical evidence is not disturbed. The alleged victim must be informed that a crime has been alleged and that Custody and administrative staff will be fully informed.
- D. If the sexual assault was recent, Health Services staff shall initiate an off-site referral to an emergency room with access to a Sexual Assault Nurse

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Examiner (SANE ). Completion of the formal evidence kit for the State Police will be accomplished at the emergency room. If the sexual assault was remote in time, the physician shall be contacted regarding required follow up. If an emergency room is used, it is anticipated that testing for, and prophylaxis against, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV, if necessary, will be initiated there; if the care is provided by the facility (because of the remoteness in time of the alleged assault) these services should be provided on-site.

- E. All alleged victims of sexual assault shall be provided with opportunities for counseling from mental health professionals within 7 days of referral.
- F. If the victim of a sexual assault is a juvenile, the Warden must be fully apprised. The Warden, rather than the Health Services personnel, shall notify the appropriate child protection authorities.
- G. The “Sexual Assault Manual” provides guidelines regarding response to specific situations.

### III. APPLICABILITY:

This HCSD is applicable to all facilities housing incarcerated adults.

signature on file

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Kristen Dauss, MD  
Chief Medical Officer

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Date