
Anonymous Sexual Assault Kit Recommendations: CRIME LAB



Definitions – Anonymous vs Non-Reporting Victim:

Anonymous Victim/Unreported Kit: A victim of sexual assault requesting a medical forensic examination, inclusive of a sexual assault kit (SAK), but does not consent to disclosing identifying information or to participate in the criminal justice process. Healthcare providers should not release identifying information, print/label name on outside of SAK, chain of custody, or other items. (May also be referred to as Jane Doe kits.)

Non-reporting/Unreporting Victim: A victim of sexual assault requesting a medical forensic examination, inclusive of a sexual assault kit (SAK), that is choosing to not report to law enforcement at time of examination. Victim may consent for healthcare providers to use identifying information that may be released to outside agencies (i.e., name can be printed or labeled on outside of sexual assault kit, chain of custody, or other items).

****Victims 17 years and younger CANNOT be non-reporting or anonymous victims.****

Recommendations for Crime Lab:

Identification of kits:

- ☒ It should not be required for the victim's name to be printed or labeled on the outside of the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) or Chain of Custody (COC) form unless a report has been made with law enforcement.
- ☒ In fact, DO NOT accept an anonymous/non-reporting kit into the crime lab. If the crime lab receives a SAK that was previously anonymous/non-reporting, the "Victim Name" space may be labeled like:
 - Anonymous plus Medical Record Number (MRN), or
 - Ex: Anonymous 000012345
 - Victim Initials plus Medical Record Number (MRN), or
 - Ex: AB 000012345
 - Medical Record Number (MRN) by itself.
 - Ex: 000012345

When to test the kit:

Testing of anonymous and/or non-reporting kits is not required according to current statute and should not be completed until a report has been made by the victim to law enforcement. This is the moment when a previously anonymous/non-reporting SAK changes to a reporting SAK, and therefore it can be tested at the crime lab.