# Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Program

New York State Department of Health (DOH) has established standards to certify three distinct Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Program components. Click each link below for more information and program applications.

### **SAFE-Designated Hospitals**

New York State Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE)-Designated Hospital Programs provide specialized care to sexual assault patients. Qualifying hospitals licensed under Article 28 of the Public Health Law seeking SAFE designation can apply to the Bureau of Women, Infant, and Adolescent Health (BWIAH) at any time. Once approved, a provider agreement with DOH, Division of Family Health obligates all hospitals to provide services consistent with SAFE Program requirements. SAFE hospital designation is not reviewed by the Office of Health Systems Management or added to the operating certificate but it is listed on the hospital profile.

# Forms and Applications:

- SAFE Program Overview and Standards (PDF)
- <u>Hospital Application</u> (PDF)
- Hospital Agreement (PDF)

**Note:** Per Public Health Law 2805-i, every hospital in New York State is required to provide care to patients of sexual assault in the emergency department. Emergency departments are required to establish and implement policies and procedures for the treatment of rape victims; have procedures in place for contacting rape victim advocates; and, collect and maintain forensic evidence utilizing the New York State standardized evidence collection kits and procedures, including second kits for suspected drug-facilitated rape incidents, when appropriate. See below for a list of service components regarding the treatment of sexual assault patients required for all hospitals.

For a list of all New York State licensed emergency departments, visit NYS Health Profiles.

# DOH-Designated SAFE Hospital Program Requirements Compared to Hospitals Without a DOH-Designated SAFE Program:

| Service Component  | SAFE<br>Program | Non-SAFE<br>Program |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|
| Provide timely, compassionate, victim-centered care that meets the health care needs of victims, provides emotional support and reduces further trauma to the victim.      | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Provide quality medical care to the patient who reports sexual assault, including screening, evaluation and treatment.   | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Provide services in compliance with Federal EMTALA requirements for all patients presenting for emergency care.  | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Maintain current protocols regarding the care of patients reporting sexual assault, and for the collection and storage of sexual offense evidence.                         | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Advise the victim of the availability of services provided by a local rape crisis or victim assistance organization, and secure such services as requested by the patient. | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Seek the sexual offense victim's consent for collection and storage of privileged sexual offense evidence.   | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Consistent with hospital protocols, conduct an evidentiary examination to collect and preserve evidence, in accordance with current forensic techniques.                   | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Ensure the quality of the collection, documentation and preservation of sexual offense evidence.   | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Discuss with the patient the option of reporting the sexual offense to the police, and, upon the request of the patient, report event to the local law enforcement agency. | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Promote staff opportunities for continuing education.  | Yes             | Yes                 |
| Ensure and monitor for quality, conduct ongoing review and oversight of services provided through  | Yes             | Yes                 |

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| the hospital-wide quality assurance program for quality improvement purposes.  |     |             |
| Routinely use the New York State Evidence Collection Kit, if the patient consents to have evidence collected. Use the drug facilitated sexual assault kit, where appropriate.  | Yes | Yes         |
| Ensure that prophylaxis against pregnancy (emergency contraception) resulting from sexual assault is provided to the patient upon request without delay, unless the patient is already pregnant or the treatment is otherwise medically contraindicated.   | Yes | Yes         |
| Provide each patient with an appropriate and safe discharge, including: medical transfer as necessary, and necessary and appropriate follow-up care/referrals, hospital contact person to assist with release or disposal of sexual offense evidence, suitable attire, transportation or appropriate arrangement, etc., as necessary to meet patient needs.  | Yes | Yes         |
| Collect required data in accordance with statewide data collection activities (hospitals without SAFE programs must comply with use of e-codes in ER SPARCS data; SAFE programs must comply with all data submission requirements.)  | Yes | Yes         |
| Maintain a supply and provide to patients, as medically indicated, prophylaxis for sexually transmitted diseases and hepatitis B.  | Yes | Yes         |
| Maintain a supply of and provide an initial supply to patients, as medically indicated, of prophylaxis for HIV.  | Yes | Yes         |
| Establish an organized program/service specifically to carry out and oversee the provision of sexual assault services. This would include the development and implementation of policies and procedures, detailing staffing requirements, initiating and conducting community outreach programs, participating in an organized data collection system, and routinely following-up with patients/law enforcement officials and crime laboratory personnel regarding evidence collection activities. | Yes | Recommended |
| Designate a program coordinator to exercise administrative and clinical oversight for the program.   | Yes | Recommended |
| Ensure that the program includes a cohort of specially trained individuals known as sexual assault forensic examiners (SAFEs). (SAFEs have been prepared through an intensive classroom and preceptor training program and have been certified by NYSDOH to conduct sexual assault exams. See SAFE Program Standards for individual providers).  | Yes | Recommended |
| Establish/participate in an interdisciplinary task force that includes local Rape Crisis Programs and other service agencies, and law enforcement representatives/ local prosecutors to develop services that meet community need and to ensure that quality victim services are available.  | Yes | Recommended |
| Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners on-site or on-call available to the patient within 60 minutes of arriving at the hospital, except under exigent circumstances.   | Yes | Recommended |
| Maintain a designated and appropriately equipped, private room in or near the hospital's emergency department to meet the specialized needs of sexual assault patients. Accommodations must include access to a shower and be handicapped accessible.  | Yes | Recommended |
| Coordinate outreach activities in the community and with other hospitals to share best practices, provide training opportunities and promote the availability of the program, to the extent feasible.  | Yes | Recommended |
| Participate in regional and statewide quality assurance initiatives designed to measure program effectiveness and reporting requirements.  | Yes | Recommended |

# **SAFE-Designated Hospitals by County:**

| County | Hospital  | Address  | Phone<br>Number |
|--------|---|--|-----------------|
| Albany |   | 43 New Scotland Ave<br>Albany, NY 12208  | 518-262-3125    |
|        | Albany Memorial Hospital, St. Peter's Health Partners | 600 Northern Blvd<br>Albany, NY 12204  | 518-471-3111    |
|        | St. Peter's Hospital, St. Peter's Health<br>Partners  | 315 S Manning Blvd<br>Albany, NY 12208   | 518-525-1550    |
| Bronx  |   | Social Work Department<br>1400 Pelham Parkway<br>Room 1E4<br>South Bronx, NY 10467 | 718-918-5800    |
|        | Lincoln Hospital, NYC Health +                        | Emergency Department   | 718-579-5784    |

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|             | Hospitals  | 234 E. 149th Street<br>Bronx, NY 10451  |                               |
|             | North Central Bronx Hospital, NYC<br>Health + Hospitals          | Social Work Department, Room 14A03,<br>3424 Kossuth Avenue<br>Bronx, NY 10467   | 718-519-3013                  |
| Broome      | Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial<br>Hospital                         | 169 Riverside Drive<br>Binghamton, New York 13905   | 607-798-5231                  |
| Cattaraugus | Olean General Hospital   | 515 Main Street<br>Olean, NY 14760  | 716-375-4149                  |
| Chautauqua  | UPMC Chautauqua WCA (Woman's<br>Christian Association) Hospital  | 207 Foote Avenue<br>Jamestown, NY 14702   | 716-664-9398                  |
| Columbia    | Columbia Memorial Health   | 71 Prospect Avenue<br>Hudson, NY 12534  | 518-828-8500                  |
| Dutchess    | MidHudson Regional Hospital                                      | 241 North Rd,<br>Poughkeepsie, NY 12601   | 845-483-5000                  |
| Erie        | Buffalo General Medical Center                                   | Emergency Department/SANE Office<br>100 High Street<br>Buffalo, NY 14203  | 716-748-2601                  |
|             | Erie County Medical Center                                       | 462 Grider Street<br>Buffalo, NY 14215  | 716-898-4166                  |
| Kings       | Coney Island Hospital, NYC Health + Hospitals                    | Emergency Department, Room 1E8B<br>2601 Ocean Parkway<br>Brooklyn, NY 11235   | 718-616-4400                  |
|             | Kings County Hospital Center, NYC<br>Health + Hospitals          | Crisis Center Room -S1N30,<br>451 Clarkson Avenue<br>Brooklyn, NY 11203   | 718-245-4602                  |
|             | Woodhull Medical Center, NYC<br>Health + Hospitals               | 760 Broadway, Room 2BC-104<br>Brooklyn, NY 11206  | 718-963-8443                  |
| Monroe      | Rochester General Hospital,<br>Rochester Regional Health         | Pediatric Emergency Department<br>1425 Portland Avenue<br>Rochester, NY 14621   | 585-922-2000                  |
|             | Strong Memorial Hospital, University of Rochester Medical Center | Department of Emergency Medicine University of<br>Rochester Medical Center Strong Memorial Hospital<br>601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 655<br>Rochester, NY 14642 | 585-275-7176                  |
| Nassau      | Nassau University Medical Center                                 | Nassau University Medical Center<br>2201 Hempstead Turnpike<br>East Meadow, NY 11554  | 516-296-2100                  |
|             | North Shore University Hospital,<br>Northwell Health             | Emergency Department<br>300 Community Drive<br>Manhasset, NY 11030,   | 516-562-2638                  |
| New York    | Bellevue Hospital, NYC Health +<br>Hospitals                     | 462 First Avenue Room A329<br>New York, NY 10016  | 212-562-3025                  |
|             | Mount Sinai Beth Israel - Petrie<br>Division                     | Emergency Department Milton and Caroll Petrie Division First Avenue at 16 <sup>th</sup> Street  | 212-420-2840                  |
|             | Lenox Health Greenwich Village,<br>Northwell Health              | NY, NY 10003<br>North Shore LIJ Health System<br>30 7th Avenue<br>New York, NY 10011  | 646-665-6910                  |
|             | Mount Sinai Hospital   | The SAVI Program One Gustave L. Levy Place, Box #1670 NY, NY 10029  | 212-423-2140                  |
|             | Mount Sinai St. Luke's & Mount<br>Sinai West                     | Crime Victims Treatment Center<br>411 West 114th Street, Suite 2C   | 212-523-3336,<br>212-523-6800 |

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|                 | Harlem Hospital Center, NYC Health<br>+ Hospitals                     | Emergency Department, Room 2105<br>506 Lenox Ave<br>New York, NY 10037                          | 212-939-2250   |
|                 | Metropolitan Hospital Center, NYC<br>Health + Hospitals               | 1901 First Avenue<br>Room 2A33<br>New York, NY 10029  | 212-423-6466   |
|                 | Columbia University Medical Center,<br>New York Presbyterian Hospital |   | 212-305-6204   |
|                 | Weill Cornell Medical Center, New<br>York Presbyterian Hospital       | 525 East 68 <sup>th</sup> Street, Box 143<br>New York, NY 10032                                 | 212-746-4458   |
| Niagara         | Eastern Niagara Hospital  | 521 East Avenue<br>Lockport, NY 14094   | 716-514-5500   |
| Onondaga        | St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center                                   | 301 Prospect Avenue<br>Syracuse, NY 13203   | 315-448-5101   |
|                 | SUNY Upstate Medical University                                       | 750 East Adams Street<br>Syracuse, NY 13210   | 315-464-5612   |
| Ontario         | F. F. Thompson Hospital, University of Rochester Medical Center       | Emergency Department<br>350 Parrish Street<br>Canandaigua, NY 14424                             | 585-396-6820   |
| Orange          | St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital  | Department of Emergency Medicine<br>70 Dubois Street<br>Newburgh, NY 12550                      | 845-568-2305   |
| Queens          | Elmhurst Hospital, NYC Health +<br>Hospitals                          | Emergency Department,<br>79-01 Broadway, Room B-1-27<br>Elmhurst, NY 11373                      | 718-334-3054   |
|                 | Queens Hospital Center, NYC Health<br>+ Hospitals                     | 82-68 164 <sup>th</sup> Street<br>Jamaica, NY 11432   | 718-883-3090   |
| Rensselaer      | Samaritan Hospital, St. Peter's Health<br>Partners                    | Sexual Assault and Crime Victims Assistance Program (SACVAP) 2215 Burdett Avenue Troy, NY 12180 | 518-271-3424   |
| Richmond        | Richmond University Medical Center                                    |   | 718-818-2995   |
| St.<br>Lawrence | Canton-Potsdam Hospital   | Emergency Department<br>50 Leroy Street<br>Potsdam, NY 13676                                    | 315-261-5909   |
|                 | Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center  | Emergency Department<br>214 King Street<br>Ogdensburg, NY 13669                                 | 315-713-5135   |
|                 | Massena Memorial Hospital   | 1 Hospital Drive<br>Massena, NY 13662   | (315) 764-1711 |
| Suffolk         | Good Samaritan Hospital Medical<br>Center                             | Department of Emergency Medicine,<br>1000 Montauk Highway<br>West Islip, NY 11795               | 631-376-4045   |
|                 | Peconic Bay Medical Center,<br>Northwell Health                       | 1300 Roanoke Avenue<br>Riverhead, NY 11901  | 631-548-6200   |
|                 | Stony Brook University Hospital                                       | 101 Nicolls Road<br>Stony brook, NY 11794   | 631-638-3600   |
| Westchester     | Westchester Medical Center, WMC<br>Health                             | 100 Woods Road<br>Valhalla, NY 10595  | 914-493-8671   |

# **DOH-Certified SAFE Training Sites**

SAFE training programs are essential for any DOH-designated hospital program to establish a cohort of medical professionals who are prepared to conduct sexual assault medical forensic examinations, collect and preserve evidence, and present testimony in the prosecution of sexual assault cases. A 40-hour didactic and clinical training course, which demonstrates to the Department the ability to provide training that meets the minimum standards and requirements, can provide training related to the Department's issuance of certificates of qualifications.

# Forms and Applications:

- SAFE Program Overview and Standards (PDF)
- Training Application (PDF)
- Training Agreement (PDF)
- Preceptor Qualification (PDF)
- Preceptor Agreement (PDF)

# **Approved Sites:**

Currently there are four active DOH-certified Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) training programs offered throughout New York State. The International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) also offers a DOH-approved online training program for SAFE-A. Visit <u>IAFN</u> for more information.

| Location    | Training Program                                | <b>Contact Information</b> |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|
| Albany      | Albany Medical Center                           | Kaylin Dawson              |
|             |   | (518) 262-6747             |
|             |   | DawsonK@amc.edu            |
| Manhattan   | New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault   | Mikayla Bobrow             |
|             |   | (212) 229-0345 x 313       |
|             |   | mbobrow@svfreenyc.org      |
| Troy        | St. Peter's Health Partners                     | Nancy Harris               |
|             |   | (518) 271-3157             |
|             |   | Nancy.harris@sphp.com      |
| Westchester | Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. | Clarissa Espinoza and      |
|             | Victim Assistance Services                      | Karel Amaranth             |
|             |   | (914) 345-3113             |
|             |   | cespinoza@westcop.org      |

### **Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners**

The DOH recommends SAFEs/SANEs in all hospitals to provide comprehensive and high quality medical care, collection of forensic evidence, and respectful and sensitive treatment. The use of DOH-certified SAFEs is required in hospitals seeking SAFE designation.

# Forms and Applications:

- NYSAFE Program Overview and Standards (PDF)
- NYSAFE Certification Application (PDF)
- NYSAFE Recertification Application (PDF)

### Additional Resources for Interested Medical Professionals and Examiners:

- Forensic Healthcare Online
- Forensic Nurses News
- How to Become a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
- IAFN New York Chapter
- IAFN SAFE Technical Assistance
- IAFN Tribal Forensic Healthcare

For additional guidance on providing services to victims of sexual assault in the health care setting, refer to the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women <u>"A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations"</u>.

Click here for more information on New York State SAFE Program standards for hospitals, trainers and examiners.

## The New York State Sexual Assault Victim Bill of Rights

The 'New York State Sexual Assault Victim Bill of Rights' must be provided to every presenting sexual offense victim before a medical facility commences a physical examination of a sexual offense victim, or a police agency, prosecutorial agency or other law enforcement agency commences an interview of a sexual offense victim. The health care professional conducting the exam, police agency, prosecutorial agency or other law enforcement agency shall inform the victim of the victim's rights by providing a copy of this sexual assault victim bill of rights and offering to explain such rights. Also available in the following languages: Arabic, Bengali, Haitian Creole, Italian, Korean, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Yiddish.

# Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit and Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault Kit:

When a patient has been sexually assaulted, the primary focus is on assessing the immediate health care needs and secondly, the collection and preservation of evidence. The DOH, in conjunction with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and crime labs in New York State, developed a sexual offense evidence collection kit for the collection and preservation of sexual assault forensic evidence. In addition, a Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault (DFSA) kit was developed to be used only in cases where there is a suspicion of a drug facilitated sexual assault. DFSA kits must be used in conjunction with the evidence collection kit. Evidence collection and DFSA kits are provided by DCJS at no cost to hospitals in the state. To place an order, visit <u>DCJS</u>.

"A Body of Evidence: Using the NYS Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit" produced by DCJS is a training video exclusively for medical providers on how to properly use the evidence collection kit. Find out more information about how to own a copy <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

**Note:** Accurately maintaining and accounting for the chain of custody of sexual offense evidence is essential for the evidence to be useful in a court of law. A patient, family member, or support person should never be left alone with evidence or ever allowed to handle or transport evidence after it has been collected. Public Health Law 2805-i provides that all sexual offense evidence shall be kept in a locked, separate and secure area for 20 years from the date of collection unless the patient directs the hospital to surrender it to the police, the patient directs the hospital to dispose of the evidence, or for certain kinds of evidence, if the police request its surrender. Hospitals are responsible for ensuring long term storage of the evidence until at least April 1, 2021. After April 1, 2021, responsibility for long-term storage of sexual offense evidence will be transferred to a new location. The DOH, OVS, DCJS, and the State Police will jointly conduct a study and develop a plan for the new location, and tracking, monitoring, and notification options. Also, between thirty and ten days prior to the transfer of evidence to the new storage location, hospitals shall make diligent efforts to notify the alleged sexual offense victim of the transfer of custody for the remainder of the 20-year storage period.

#### Information on Evidence Collection Kits:

- Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit Instructions
- Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit Envelope Instructions
- Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit Guidelines
- Authorization for Release of Information and Evidence to Law Enforcement
- Medical Record Sexual Assault From
- Patient Information Form (English/Spanish)
- Consent/Refusal and Evidentiary Log

#### Information on DFSA Kits:

- DFSA Kit Collection Instructions
- DFSA Kit Lab Information Form
- DFSA Alert Sheet
- Authorization for Release of Sexual Assault Drug Screen

#### **Patient Consent:**

The entire health care and evidentiary exam is conducted at the patient's discretion. The patient may withdraw consent at any time, or may choose to complete only certain parts of the health care exam, evidentiary exam, or health care treatment. Written, informed consent for medical care and HIV testing must be obtained. In addition, consent must be obtained for collection and storage of sexual offense evidence, including forensic photography. A signed consent for release of information and privileged evidence to law enforcement is required. The patient must also sign a release directing the hospital not to collect and keep privileged evidence, if the patient chooses not to participate in an evidentiary exam.

- It is the consenting patient's choice whether to involve law enforcement personnel or not. However, the health care provider has a legal obligation to report injuries including gunshot wounds or other injuries arising from the discharge of a firearm, or a wound which is likely to result in death and is actually or apparently inflicted by a knife, ice pick, or other sharp instrument.
- If a suspected sexual assault patient is unconscious, the hospital should follow established procedures for the care and treatment of the unconscious patient.
- A mature minor who presents at a hospital emergency department may consent or may choose not to consent, without parental involvement, to a forensic exam, in the course of post-sexual assault care.

#### **Reimbursement for Services Provided to Sexual Assault Patients:**

New York State law provides for direct reimbursement to providers of forensic health care examination services. Reimbursement provides for the personal privacy of sexual assault patients and ensures that survivors are not billed for any forensic health care examination services, including a seven-day starter pack of HIV post-exposure prophylaxis. To obtain a Forensic Rape Examination (FRE) claim application or more information, visit the Office of Victim Services (OVS).

#### **Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP):**

Forced sexual contact may result in pregnancy or exposure to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Proper care should be provided immediately.

- **Pregnancy:** For female patients of child-bearing age or female to male transgender patients who still have the anatomical features of a female, there is a risk of pregnancy from rape. Examiners are expected to adhere to and fully document services provided, consistent with the following standards of professional practice and Public Health Law 2805-p:
  - Counsel rape patients about options for emergency contraception (EC) against pregnancy and the importance of timely action.
  - Provide rape patients with written information prepared or approved by the Department relating to EC.
    - Emergency Contraception: What you Need to Know (English)
    - Emergency Contraception: What you Need to Know (Spanish)
  - Provide eligible rape patients EC upon request, unless medically contraindicated
- HIV PEP: The danger of exposure to HIV is real and life-threatening. HIV PEP should be initiated as soon as possible after exposure, ideally within 2 hours. Decisions regarding initiation of PEP beyond 36 hours' post exposure should be made on a case-by-case basis. For specific recommendations, refer to the PEP for Victims of Sexual Assault Guidelines by the AIDS Institute Clinical Guidelines Program.

Below are additional DOH brochures on HIV/AIDS:

- I Might Have Been Exposed to HIV... What Should I Do?
- HIV and AIDS Facts (English)
- HIV and AIDS Facts (Spanish)
- **Hepatitis and other STIs:** Please visit the <u>PEP for Victims of Sexual Assault Guidelines on Management of STIs Other Than HIV</u> and the <u>CDCs 2015 Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines on sexual assault and abuse for more information.</u>

#### **Care for Suspected Child Abuse Patients:**

Most sexually abused children who do not present with emergent medical conditions can be scheduled with an appointment at a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) or with a medical provider. However, all children who are suspected of being sexually abused should have the opportunity for a medical evaluation and timely collection of forensic evidence by a Child Abuse Medical Provider (CHAMP), SAFE-P, certified child abuse pediatrician, or a pediatric examiner.

- If there is reasonable cause to suspect a child has been sexually abused or maltreated by a parent, guardian, custodian, or other person over the age of 18 legally responsible for the child, a report must be called into **1-800-342-3720.**For more information, please visit OCFS Child Protective Services.
- CHAMP is a statewide network of medical providers specially trained to examine pediatric patients suspected of being sexually abuse. The CHAMP Program offers education to eligible pediatric practitioners to become CHAMP members and continuing internet-based education. To find out more, visit their website <a href="here">here</a>.
- CAC's specialize in child sexual abuse by building upon a multidisciplinary team approach to provide investigations, evaluations, treatment and prosecution services for child sexual abuse patients. For more information, visit New York State Children's Alliance <a href="here">here</a>.

For additional guidance on pediatric sexual assault patients, refer to the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women's <u>A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations Pediatric</u>".

#### **Rape Crisis or Victim Assistance Advocate:**

The DOH has established standards for rape crisis programs to train rape crisis or victim assistance advocates. Advocates who complete the training can, by law, provide confidential services to sexual assault patients. Hospital personnel shall advise sexual assault patients of the availability of services from a local rape crisis program, if any, to accompany the patient through the medical-forensic exam. If the patient wishes the presence of an advocate, the hospital shall contact the appropriate organization and request that one be provided.

• For a list of rape crisis programs in your community, click here.

#### **Sexual Assault Response Team (SART):**

A goal of the DOH's SAFE Program is to utilize an interdisciplinary approach by working with the local rape crisis program, law enforcement, prosecutors, hospitals, and other necessary serve providers to effectively meet the needs of the sexual assault victim and the community. SARTs help to achieve this goal by bringing parties together on a regular basis. For more information please visit the Office of Justice Programs SART Toolkit.

#### **Department of Health SAFE Program Contact Information:**

• New York State Department of Health, Division of Family Health Bureau of Women, Infant, and Adolescent Health Empire State Plaza - Corning Tower, Room 821 Albany, New York 12237 (518)-474-0535 rcprpt@health.ny.gov\*

\* Note: This shared mailbox is only monitored by Sexual Violence Prevention Program staff from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday and is intended for non-emergency purposes. If you are someone who has been sexually assaulted and you are seeking immediate assistance, please contact the New York State Hotline for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence at 1-800-942-6906. If it is an emergency, contact 911.

# **Relevant Laws and Regulations**

- New York Public Health Law 2805-i Treatment of Sexual Offense Victims and Maintenance of Evidence in a Sexual Offense
- New York Public Health Law 2805-p Emergency Treatment of Rape Survivors
- New York Public Health Law 2803-d -- Reporting Abuses of Persons Receiving Care or Services in Residential Health Care Facilities
- New York Public Health Law 2805-y Identification and assessment of human trafficking victims
- New York Executive Law 631 (13) Awards
- New York Penal Law 265.25 Certain Wounds to be Reported
- New York Penal Law 265.26 Burn Injury and Wounds to be Reported
- New York Penal Law 130.05 Sex Offenses; Lack of Consent
- 10 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations 722 Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) Programs
- 10 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations 405.19(c) Emergency Services
- 10 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations 405.9(c) Administration/ Discharge

• 10 New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations 69-5 – Approval of Rape Crisis Programs for the Purpose of Rape Crisis Counselor Certification

#### **Online Resources**

#### **New York State Organizations:**

- New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault
- New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute
- New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services: Office of Forensic Services
- New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services: Sexual Offense Evidence Kits
- New York State Office of Victim Services
- State University of New York: Sexual Assault and Violence Response Resources
- New York State Trauma-Informed Network

#### **National Organizations**

- International Association of Forensic Nurses
- National Center for Victims of Crime
- National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence
- National Institute of Justice Sexual Assault Kits
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center
- Office for Victims of Crime
- RHIhub National TeleNursing Center
- SANE-SART Online + Clinical

#### **Tools and Guidance Documents:**

- A Body of Evidence: Using the NYS Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit Training Video
- A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations Adult/Adolescents
- A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations Pediatric
- An Overview of Minors' Consent Law
- Biological Evidence Preservation Handbook: Best Practices for Evidence Handlers
- Emergency Contraception
- Emergency Contraception: What you need to know (available in English and Spanish)
- Human Trafficking Guidebook on Identification, Assessment, and Response in the Health Care Setting
- National Best Practices for Sexual Assault Kits: A Multidisciplinary Approach
- Non-Fatal Strangulation Documentation Toolkit
- PEP for Victims of Sexual Assault Guideline
- Responding to Transgender Victims of Sexual Assault
- Rights of Crime Victims in New York State
- <u>SAFESTAR</u>
- SANE Program Development and Operation Guide
- SART Toolkit
- Sexual Assault Response Team Development Guide for Victim Service Providers