

What to expect at the hospital during a forensic exam

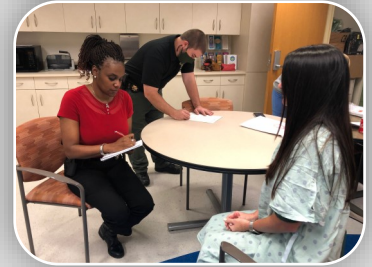
1

Please do not have any food or drink after the attack. No chewing gum or brushing your teeth.



2

You can talk to a police officer. Tell them how you feel and what happened to you. They will give you a case number. If you do not want to file a report, you do not have to talk to the officer, **unless the law says you have to.**



3

The nurse will ask you questions. You will be asked to do things. You will say yes or no. You will write your name next to each step on a paper.



4

The nurse may have to touch you. They will put tests and items into an envelope. The envelope will be saved for 1 year even if you don't talk to the police.



5

People who can get pregnant will be given a pregnancy test. You can ask the nurse for medicine to stop you from getting pregnant.



6

The nurse will give you a robe. You will get new clothes to wear home.



7

If you say yes, the nurse will take pictures of your body. These pictures will be private and only people who have your okay/permission will see them.



8

The nurse will rub a long Q-tip on the parts of your body that were touched. They will also rub a long Q-tip inside your mouth, on the sides of your cheeks.



9

The nurse may turn off the lights and use a special light, to make sure they didn't miss seeing anything on your body.



10

A comb may be used to comb areas of your body that have hair on them such as your head and private/genital/vaginal area.



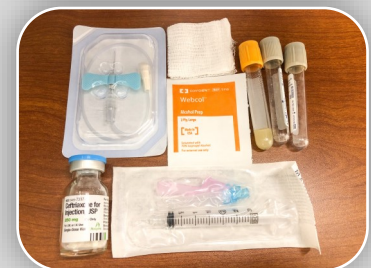
11

You will be given a lot of pills to swallow. You will need to take these with food so it doesn't make your stomach hurt. The nurse will tell you about each pill.



12

The nurse may take blood from your arm. You can lie down if you need to. She may also give you a shot in your bottom. The nurse will tell you about each step.



This guide was provided by Sexual Trauma Service of the Midlands. We provide counseling services at no cost. This handout is for explaining a forensic exam to survivors. Each exam is different and may include other steps.

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sexual trauma services

www.stsm.org