

## I'm not sure if this was sexual assault...

Did you experience unwanted sexual contact or sexual penetration of any type?

Did you agree or consent to what took place?

*Submission does not mean consent.  
See definition of consent on back panel.*

Do you think you might have been unable to truly agree or give consent?

*See definition of consent on back panel.*

Did you suspect that you might have been drugged?

*Perpetrators use many methods to control their victims including but not limited to: sex, shame, threats, and debilitating substances like alcohol and other drugs.*

Did you wake up somewhere and not know how you got there?

Do you want to have a confidential conversation to figure out what happened?

*Crisis advocates are available (see resource list) to provide support and legal information.*

*Sexual assault, regardless of gender, is A CRIME and is NEVER the victim's fault.*

## WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT?

*Sexual contact and/or penetration where any of the following occurs\*:*

- ◆ Use of physical force, violence or superior strength to overcome you
- ◆ Coercion with the threat of using physical force, violence or superior strength to overcome you
- ◆ If you are physically helpless to resist
- ◆ Use of actual threats or threats of retaliation against you or another
- ◆ Use of a substance that incapacitates you
- ◆ When you say or indicate no by speech or conduct
- ◆ If you have a known disability which renders you incapable of consenting
- ◆ By concealment or by the element of surprise and you are unable to flee or resist
- ◆ When you are between 13 & 16 years old and the person is a member of the same household or related by blood or affinity
- ◆ When you are less than 13 years old
- ◆ When you are between 13 & 18 years old and the person is in a position of authority over you AND they use that authority to coerce you

*\*The above information is the abridged version. For the unabridged version see the sexual assault statute in NH is RSA 632-A.*

## WHAT IS CONSENT?

*Consent is...*

- ◆ A **mutual agreement**, based on a shared desire for specific sexual activities
- ◆ An ongoing **verbal interaction**, taken one step at a time, to an expressed and honest yes
- ◆ **Mutual awareness** of any or all possible consequences of activities
- ◆ Each partner remains **open** to and **respects** the other partner's expression of agreement or disagreement to engage in the activity
- ◆ A child under age 16 CANNOT consent

# Are you ok?

*If you are a victim of a sexual assault...*

**YOU ARE NOT TO BLAME.**

*Help is available...*

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE TEAM



**To support and improve the provision of services to adult victims of sexual violence using a collaborative, victim-centered response to achieve justice.**

## I know this was sexual assault...

Are you in a safe place?

Do you need support?

*Crisis advocates are trained to help you obtain a restraining order and support you as you go through the process. Any information you share with them is confidential.*

Should you seek medical treatment?

*The **first priority** is to make sure you are okay. You can get medical treatment without involving the police. You can have a crisis counselor with you at the hospital. You can have an exam to allow evidence to be gathered and still control what is used. The **best evidence** can be gathered if you don't bathe, douche, or change clothes.*

Do you know you DO NOT need to report a sexual assault to law enforcement to get help?

*If you are at least 18 years old, it is your choice whether to report or not. Reporting the assault can be a way of regaining your sense of personal space and control.*

Do you know you DO NOT have to be a US citizen to get help?

*Sexual assault is a crime of power and control.*

## IF YOU DECIDE TO REPORT

Reports of sexual assault are made to the law enforcement agency where the assault occurred.

If you have gone to the hospital the medical personnel can assist you in contacting law enforcement.

Law enforcement will take a report from you and investigate.

If prosecution moves forward, the case may be handled by the law enforcement agency or the Hillsborough County Attorney's Office.

Under NH RSA21-M:8-K, The NH Victims' Bill of Rights provides victims with numerous rights. Some of these rights include:

- ♦ The right to be treated with fairness and respect;
- ♦ The right to be informed about the criminal justice process and how it progresses;
- ♦ The right to be free from intimidation and to be reasonably protected from the accused throughout the criminal justice process;
- ♦ The right to confer with the prosecution and to be consulted about the disposition of the case;
- ♦ The right to be informed about available resources, financial assistance and social services;
- ♦ The right of confidentiality of the victim's address, place of employment, and other personal information.

System-based advocates may be available to support and guide you through the criminal justice process.

Crisis center advocates may be present to support you any time whether or not you decide to report.

## WE CAN HELP

### MEDICAL

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HOSPITALS**  
CATHOLIC MEDICAL CENTER (CMC)  
100 McGregor Street Manchester, NH 03102  
603/663-6478

ELLIOT HOSPITAL  
1 Elliot Way Manchester, NH 03103  
603/669-5300

MONADNOCK COMMUNITY HOSPITAL  
452 Old Street Rd, Peterborough, NH 03458  
603/924-7191

SOUTHERN NH MEDICAL CENTER  
8 Prospect Street Nashua, NH 03061  
603/577-2000

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL  
172 Kinsley St, Nashua, NH 03060  
(603) 882-3000

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

#### POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Amherst.....	673-4900
Antrim.....	588-6613
Bedford.....	472-5113
Bennington.....	588-6303
Brookline.....	673-3755
Deering.....	464-3127
Francestown.....	547-6850
Goffstown.....	497-4858
Greenfield.....	547-2525
Greenville/Temple.....	878-2324
Hancock.....	525-4102
Hillsboro.....	464-5512
Hollis.....	465-7637
Hudson.....	886-6011
Litchfield.....	424-4047
Lyndeborough.....	654-5469
Manchester.....	668-8711
Mason.....	878-1111
Merrimack.....	424-3774
Milford.....	249-0630
Mont Vernon.....	673-5610
Nashua.....	594-3500
New Boston.....	487-2433
New Ipswich.....	878-2771
Pelham.....	635-2411
Peterborough.....	924-8050
Sharon/NH State Police.....	666-3334
Weare.....	529-7755
Wilton.....	654-9452
Windsor/NH State Police.....	271-3636
State Police Troop B.....	666-3333

### ADVOCACY

#### CRISIS CENTERS

Bridges: Domestic & Sexual Violence Support  
Crisis Line.....883.3044  
Milford Office.....672-9833  
Nashua Office.....889-0858  
[www.bridgesnh.org](http://www.bridgesnh.org)

Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention  
Crisis Line.....352-3782  
Toll-free hotline.....888/511-6287  
Keene Office.....352-3782  
Jaffrey & Peterborough Office....209-4015  
[www.MCVPrevention.org](http://www.MCVPrevention.org)

YWCA NH Crisis Center  
Crisis Line.....668-2299  
Manchester Office.....625-5785  
[www.ywcanh.org](http://www.ywcanh.org)

#### ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

Dept. of Defense SAFE Helpline....877-995-1388  
Dept. of Veteran's Affairs.....624-4366  
Manchester Family Justice Center.....792-0917  
[www.manchesterfjc.org](http://www.manchesterfjc.org)

NH Bureau of Elderly & Adult Services..665-8332  
Toll-Free.....800/852-7493  
**NHCADSV** NH Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence.....224-8893  
[www.nhcadsv.org](http://www.nhcadsv.org)

NH National Guard Sexual Assault Prevention & Response (**SAPR**) Helpline.....856-6700  
Victims' Compensation Program....271-1284  
Toll-free.....800/300-4500  
<https://ccvcnh.org>

### PROSECUTION

#### HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Manchester Office.....627-5605  
Victim/Witness Services.....627-5605  
Nashua Office.....594-3250  
Victim/Witness Services.....594-3255

#### NOTIFICATION ASSISTANCE

NH Dept. of Corrections Victim Services...271-1937  
NH VINE.....<https://www.vinelink.com>

## MEDICAL FAQ

### Why should I go to the hospital?

- ♦ You may have internal and/or external injuries that you are not aware of.
- ♦ You may have been exposed to a sexually transmitted infection.
- ♦ It is possible for you to become pregnant as a result of the assault.
- ♦ The collection and documentation of physical evidence is an important part of the police investigation and prosecution's case, if you choose to report the assault.

### What does an examination include?

- ♦ Medical-forensic history, for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment.
- ♦ Head to toe physical exam, looking for trauma.
- ♦ Detailed genital exam, looking for trauma.
- ♦ Collection of forensic evidence (evidence that can be used for legal purposes, if you choose to report the crime.)

### What is a SANE Nurse?

A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) is a Registered Nurse who has been specially trained to provide comprehensive, uninterrupted care to sexual assault survivors, including conducting the forensic collection of evidence.

The goal of the SANE Program is to minimize the physical and psychological trauma to the victim and to maximize the probability of collecting and preserving the physical evidence of an assault for potential use in the legal system.

### How much will it cost?

You should **not** be charged for the sexual assault examination. The NH Attorney General's office will cover the cost of the forensic exam, if you do not have insurance. You will also receive a voucher to cover the costs of a follow-up exam.