

If you have Been Sexually Assaulted

If you have been sexually assaulted you can go directly to the Vancouver General Hospital Emergency Department at 920 West 10th Avenue (near Oak Street). Ask for the Sexual Assault Service (SAS). The SAS nurses and doctors are available 24 hours a day. We provide care to anyone 13 or older who has been sexually assaulted within the past 7 days.

You are welcome to bring a friend, family member or support person to the hospital with you.

Interpreters or language services can be arranged.

Female patients may request that a WAVAW (Women Against Violence Against Women) Rape Crisis Centre support worker meet them at the hospital. Please call for a counsellor at 604-255-6344.

For further information about the Sexual Assault Service, please call our non-emergency office number:

604-875-2881

Support Services

These services may not be provided in your language.

- WAVAW Rape Crisis Centre
Crisis Line 604-255-6344
- Vancouver Rape Relief Crisis Line
604-872-8212
- Vancouver & Lower Mainland Multicultural Family Support Services
604-436-1025
- VictimLINK
1-800-563-0808
- Chimo Crisis Services Crisis Line
(9am - midnight)
604-279-7070
- Battered Women's Support Services
604-687-1867
- Surrey Women's Centre
604-583-1295
- North Shore Women's Centre
604-984-6009
- BC Society for Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse
604-682-6482

Sexual Assault Service

Confidential and sensitive health care for teens and adults who have been sexually assaulted.

To access our program go to:

**Vancouver General Hospital
Emergency Department
920 West 10th Avenue
(near Oak Street)
Vancouver, BC**

What is Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact without your consent. It can include kissing, touching, grabbing, and forced intercourse.

It is an act of violence.

How You May Feel

Sexual assault is traumatic. You may be in a state of shock and find it hard to believe this really happened to you. Some people do not remember what happened.

You may feel embarrassed, ashamed, guilty, anxious, depressed, angry or numb. Some people have nightmares, difficulty eating or sleeping, or are afraid to go outside. You may also be worried about sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy, HIV or injuries. These are common concerns after a sexual assault.

We Offer

- Free services 24 hours a day - no Carecard required
- Short wait and private room
- Caring and knowledgeable female staff
- Medical assessment and treatment
- Free emergency contraception and medications for STIs
- Collection of forensic samples
- Information about community support services
- A follow-up phone call from our counsellor

How We Can Help

The Sexual Assault Service (SAS) offers sensitive and comprehensive health care to anyone 13 or older who has been sexually assaulted within the past 7 days. Our specially trained female nurses and doctors will respond to your health care needs in a safe and supportive environment.

All Services Are Confidential

We will explain what we can offer and answer any questions you might have. You will decide what you would like us to do and we will respect your decisions. We know that whatever happened to you was not your fault.

What About Police?

At the hospital you will be given information about your legal options. It is your choice whether or not to report the sexual assault to the police. We will support whatever decision you make. If you choose to report to police we can collect forensic samples, summarize our findings in a medical legal report and testify in court.