

# Cheat Sheet – The Medical Forensic Examination

## AFTER MEDICAL CLEARANCE

### Introduction

- Role
- Education
- Focus on empowering through choice

### Consent

- Obtain consent

### History

- Collect history in patient's exact words
- Use quotations

### Medical/surgical history

- Obtain medical/surgical history
- Vital signs

### Head-to-Toe Exam

- Move from head to waist,
- Then toes to waist
- Lastly do anogenital exam

### Inspection

- Look for injuries
- Assess for strangulation

### Photograph injuries

- Photograph first, then swab
  - Rule of 3's – orientation, close-up, close-up with scale (ruler)
  - Bookend photographs with patient ID
  - Any injury seen: photograph, then swab
- Anogenital photos
  - Orientation photo of external genitalia
  - Photograph each structure
    - (labia, clitoris, hymen, vagina, cervix through speculum, anus)
- Photograph any area of pain that doesn't show injury
  - catch developing injury
    - encourage return for follow-up to re-examine these areas

# Cheat Sheet – The Medical Forensic Examination

## Swab

Swab injuries and possible areas of contact:

- “Usual” locations for assault
  - Oral cavity
  - Neck, breasts, thighs
  - Vagina, anus
  - Palmar surface of hands and under nails, if indicated
  - Any location with bodily fluids (bites, licking, sucking, ejaculation)

Any location with aggressive and/or prolonged contact (“manual contact” or digital penetration)

- Strangulation
- Manual restraint
- Digital penetration of any body cavity

## Swab Counts:

- Four dry swabs for body cavities (collect using two swabs simultaneously)
- Two damp swabs for non-cavity body sites and injuries (per Idaho State Crime Lab)

## STI/Pregnancy

- Assess for sexually-transmitted infections and pregnancy

## Danger

- Assess for Danger, lethality, and/or suicide

## Follow-Up

- Primary care provider
  - STI and pregnancy testing
  - Mental health follow-up
- HIV clinic (if indicated)
- Advocacy
- Law enforcement
- Safety and communication plan

## SAECK

- Assemble Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit
- Maintain Chain of Custody
- Transfer kit to Law Enforcement in Idaho Kit Tracking System (IKTS)

## Documentation