



December 2020

Idaho SANE/SART Update

... improving access to standardized care
for the sexual assault patient in the
state of Idaho



More is better, right? Well, maybe!

When collecting evidence we do want 'more' - all the places evidence may have been left need to be swabbed. So, what (and where!) exactly do we need to swab? You will use the patient history of the assault to guide your collection.

Every sexual assault patient needs to have, at a minimum, oral, external genitalia, and anal swabs taken.

ORAL SWABS: use four dry swabs and swab around each tooth, across gums, and under tongue—suspected fluid would be noted as “semen”, “saliva” or “semen and/or saliva” dependent on the history given.

EXTERNAL GENITALIA: use two damp swabs and swab the pubic mons, the clitoral hood, the labia majora, labia minora, and perineum— package in one envelope; suspected fluid may be “semen” and/or “saliva” depending on the patient’s history.

ANAL: Even if anal penetration is denied these swabs should be collected: use four dry swabs and insert them no more than one inch (to line of Dentate), twirling. suspected fluid may be “semen” .

VAGINAL: If vaginal penetration was reported, use four dry swabs and swab entire vaginal vault/cavity, resting the tip for a moment in the cervical os; do not twirl or move

the tip of each swab in the cervical os (WITHOUT any motion) for five to ten seconds.

SKIN: Each area where the assailant’s mouth or ejaculate may have touched the patient’s skin must be swabbed.

Use two damp swabs and swab each area ALONE— do not combine sites. Roll both swabs over the area, ensuring *all sides and the tip* of the swab come in contact with the skin.

Each lick or bite mark, and each area of possible ejaculate must be swabbed and packaged separately. Suspected fluid would be “saliva” or “semen”, dependent on history.

If your patient has male genitalia you will obtain penile and scrotal swabs, instead of vaginal. Use two damp swabs and swab the entire penis (glans, all surfaces of shaft) but do not place the swab in the urethral opening—you will collect excessive patient DNA. Use two damp swabs and swab the entire scrotal area. The penile and scrotal swabs should be in separate envelopes.

Body Cavities = 4 dry swabs

Non-cavities = 2 damp*

* damp: you may use two damp swabs (each swab moistened with only 1-2 drops of sterile water) OR one damp swab, followed by one dry swab.

Do NOT use more than four swabs for cavities, or two swabs for non-cavities, as it dilutes the DNA thinly across too many swabs



Program Spotlight

We will begin to introduce you to programs across Idaho that serve our patients who have been sexually assaulted; today we introduce the newest program in our state.

Meet Teresa Donnahoo, RN, Sexual Assault Nurse examiner, who moved to Idaho last summer and, upon recognizing that Valley County had no place to do medical forensic examinations, jumped in to make a difference.

Teresa has capitalized on collaboration with partners in multiple counties, beginning with the Rose Advocates in both Valley and Washington counties. She met with personnel from Cascade Medical Center, as well as multiple local law enforcement agencies.

In September Teresa opened Elevated Forensic Nursing with the ability to offer medical forensic exams at Cascade Medical Center, serving Valley, Adams, and northern Boise counties. But, she didn't stop there, collaboration with Two Rivers Clinic in Weiser opened the door to offer medical forensic exams there in November; serving Washington, Payette, and Gem counties.

As we all know, caring for our patients is really a team effort, and Teresa is working hard to build a local SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) that will cover all the counties served by the two sites.

Please feel free to contact Teresa for any questions related to her independent program ... or just to welcome her to Idaho, and to our community of healthcare providers! She can be reached at elevatedforensicsnursing.com or by phone at 509-378-1841.



Teresa Donnahoo — Owner, Elevated Forensic Nursing

*Resilience is based on compassion for ourselves
as well as compassion for others.*

Sharon Salzberg

SANE Clinical Skills Days in 2021

The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Center in Idaho Falls (DVSAC) will be offering two 2-day Clinical Skills Days for providers who have completed the 40-hour Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Course and who need hands-on practice.

The courses will be May 14 & 15 and Oct. 15 & 16 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Attendees will be divided into groups and rotate through exam rooms to perform forensic history-taking, head-to-toe examination, speculum exams using live models, forensic photography, and documentation pointers.

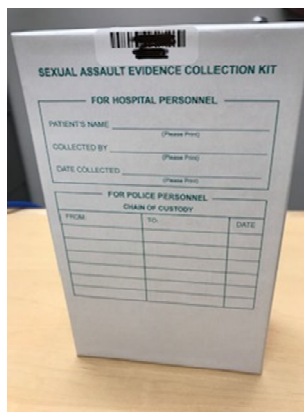
Cost for the course is \$400 per person; discounts may be offered for more than 8 registrants from one organization.

To register, look for the events on Eventbrite, or contact Emily Mangus, Program Manager at DVSAC at 517-745-9242 or by email at emangus@co.bonneville.id.us

Links to the Eventbrite sites:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/adultadolescent-clinical-skills-training-sanefsafe-nurses-tickets-127058608719>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/copy-of-adultadolescent-clinical-skills-training-sanefsafe-nurses-tickets-127062488323>



Need to Order Sexual Assault Kits??

Simply send an email to R3lab@isp.idaho.gov; tell them how many kits you need and the address to send them to, and they will arrive shortly!

No Azithromycin??

The CDC has issued new guidelines for the treatment of gonorrhea, using Doxycycline rather than Azithromycin— we are awaiting clarification if this means Doxy should also be used for prophylaxis after sexual assault—when we have received the clarification we will distribute it to you.