



# Idaho SANE/SART Update

June 2021

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



## Congratulations are in Order!

The IAFN\* certification exam has a first-time pass rate of only 60% ... and four Idaho nurses can tell you how hard that exam is! Jane Spohn of Coeur d'Alene passed the SANE-P (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner—Pediatrics) and Emily Mangas of Idaho Falls, Teresa Donnahoo of Cascade, and Deb Wetherelt of Boise passed the SANE-A (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner—Adult/Adolescent). After several months of studying they are happy this is behind them. While being certified as a SANE is not required to practice in Idaho, the certification speaks to a high level of competence and dedication.



Teresa Donnahoo, RN, SANE-A



Deb Wetherelt, RN SANE-A



Jane Spohn, RN, SANE-P



Emily Mangas, RN, SANE-A

\*IAFN—International Association of Forensic Nurses

## It's the Law ....

Could you be breaking the law while at work?? Idaho Statute 67, Chapter 29 (67.2919.3) states "The medical entity collecting the (sexual assault evidence collection) kit shall document in the state kit tracking system any required fields". This means when you collect a sexual assault evidence collection kit and have given it to law enforcement you need to log into the kit tracking system at :

<https://isp.idaho.gov/SexualAssaultKitTracking/>

You will see a list of kits assigned to your organization; click on the kit number then:

- \* double check the expiration dates matches
- \* enter your agency name
- \* enter the law enforcement agency you gave the kit to
- \* enter the collection date
- \* select the kit was "named" or "anonymous" (Jane Doe)
- \* then "save"

That's it — you've followed the law!! If you don't have a personal logon contact Lindsay at: [Lindsay.gregory@isp.idaho.gov](mailto:Lindsay.gregory@isp.idaho.gov) and she'll help!

If your organization has one person who does all kit entries, be sure to let them know the kit has been collected and needs to be entered.

## Upcoming SANE Courses

It is the goal of ISPFS (Idaho State Police Forensic Services) to educate an additional 250 nurses as SANE nurses in Idaho ... to that end we are working with hospitals and other organizations to schedule a minimum of four 40-hour SANE courses in Idaho each year. The courses scheduled to date include:

- ⇒ **July 12-16 in Idaho Falls**
- ⇒ **August 2-6 in Rupert**
- ⇒ **August 16-20 in Boise**
- ⇒ **Sept. 13-17 in Salmon**
- ⇒ **Sept. 27-Oct. 1 in Lewiston**
- ⇒ **November 1-5 in Coeur d'Alene**

This course will qualify the Registered Nurse, APN, or Physician to perform Medical Forensic Examinations for patients who have experienced sexual assault. If you have any interest in attending one of these sessions please contact Deb.

### How Are We Doing?

We recently randomly looked at 36 kits that have been processed by the Crime Lab, this is what we saw:

#### Good practices included:

- No blanks on the Pt Information & History Form (91.6%)
- Documentation is consistent and not conflicting (97.2%)
- Documentation provides probative value (94.4%)
- Only one body site per envelope (91.6%)
- Unused envelopes kept at site (86.1%)
- 4 swabs used for body cavities (83.3%)
- Suspected fluid is noted on envelopes (80.5%)

#### Opportunities for improvement include:

- 2 swabs used for non-cavity sites (58.3%)
- Swabs taken appropriate to history (58.3%)
- Where foreign matter found is noted (52.7%)
- Comments on why something is missing from kit (47.2%)

DNA was detected in 44.4% of all kits—and almost 20% of the submitted kits had NO suggestions for improvement!

## Program Spotlight

Karmeale Bailey is an RN at Steele Memorial Medical Center in Salmon; she accepted the role of the SANE Coordinator at the hospital in September, 2020. It has been many hours of hard work to create this program “from the bottom up”! Karmeale has researched and written many policies and procedures, as well as created and presented several trainings. She has worked, and continues to work, on facilitating positive relationships with local advocacy and law enforcement. She is very vocal in her appreciation for Emily Mangas, the SANE Program Coordinator in Idaho Falls who has been “a huge help in getting the program up and going”!

Steele Memorial Medical Center has a strong appreciation for The Mahoney House, which provides survivors with housing, counseling, and victim’s crime compensation paperwork, “and anything else the survivor needs, whether it be kids, babies, moms, dads, domestic violence (survivors) or rape victims”.

Karmeale is currently supporting the ED with new policies, algorithms, and education around strangulation assessment to ensure patients who may not have been sexually assaulted still receive excellent forensic care.

The hospital-based program is currently staffed only with Karmeale and Lisa Loughran, their CNO; they face the same staffing and education issues many of our rural hospitals do, but their dedication ensures 24/7 coverage for the program! They are able to provide services for any victim of sexual assault, regardless of age or gender, as well as for any victim of crime in their area — strangulation, domestic violence, child abuse, gun-shot wounds and stabbings (any case in which law enforcement is involved).

The program provides HIV/STD/pregnancy follow-up in their clinic with the Medical Director of the SANE program, ensuring all patients (including those without a primary care provider) can receive comprehensive follow up.



### Program Spotlight (con't)

Prior to the formation of the SANE program the community had one NP who was the only provider for these patients; when she had to (rarely!) be out of town, patients had to be sent out of town (usually to Idaho Falls, a two-and-a-half hour drive one way!)

Like many other programs in Idaho, Salmon is seeing a rise in domestic violence and child abuse/neglect cases — a concern they are working collaboratively with their local SART to address. Cases receive collaborative follow-up from community partners and close monitoring until resolution.

### Expired Kits and the Joint Commission

Deb has consulted with The Joint Commission regarding having expired SAECKs in hospitals — the conversation was promising that an agreement can be reached in which the expired kits can remain in the hospital and not be surveyed during the accreditation survey. *Replacing the expired vial of sterile water, and documenting that on the Patient Information and History Form will be vitally important to this process.*

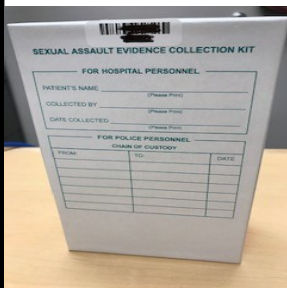
When Deb receives the final letter from The Joint Commission she will share it with all organizations so they have it on hand for their accreditation surveys.

If you have expired kits and are not comfortable replacing the ampule, return the kit to ISP, please.



### Need to Order Kits?

Email [R3lab@isp.idaho.gov](mailto:R3lab@isp.idaho.gov) and tell us what kits you need (SAECKs, blood toxicology or urine toxicology) and how many you need — they will be on their way to you!



### 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 May course is (obviously!) closed (they had 10 attendees on the first day, and eight on the second day!); the Oct. 15 & 16 class will be from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 pm at the Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Center. 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 Mangas, Program Manager at DVSAC at 517-745-9242 or by email at [emangus@co.bonneville.id.us](mailto: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>

While completion of the 40-hour SANE-A course is preferred, it is not mandatory; you can take the Skills Day before you attend the 40-hour course.

*We will not always be motivated,  
therefore, we must  
be disciplined.. (unknown)*



## Evidence Pearls

If your patient has sustained aggressive and/or prolonged manual contact (a severe blow from a fist, strangulation, or being manually restrained), or if they report digital penetration of any body cavity, you should swab those areas for evidence.

For non-body-cavity surfaces (the neck after strangulation, the wrists from restraint, area of a severe blow) use two damp swabs and swab the entire area. For strangulation begin just under the left ear, down to the shoulder/clavicle and across the width of the entire neck to just under the right ear. You are swabbing anywhere the assailant touched the neck.



If digital penetration of the vagina or anus is reported collect external genitalia swabs using two damp swabs (swab mons, labia majora and minora, fossa navicularis, posterior Fourchette, and perineum), then swab the body cavity that was penetrated (four dry swabs). Use an extra envelope (please do not open a kit for a non-sexual assault strangulation) and label it:

Circle One:    Manual Contact    or    Digital Penetration  
Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm  
Collected By: \_\_\_\_\_

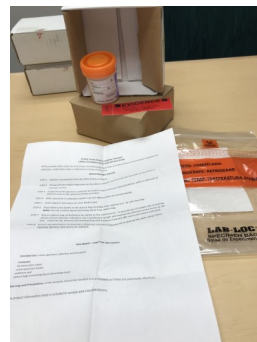
## Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault

While routine toxicology testing is not recommended, there are times it is appropriate. If your patient presents with drowsiness, fatigue, light-headedness, dizziness, physiological instability, memory loss, impaired motor skills or severe intoxication you should obtain informed consent quickly and obtain specimens.

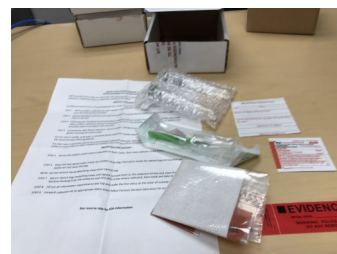
If the possible ingestion occurred less than 24 hours previously, collect a 20ml blood sample *using the toxicology kit from the State Crime Lab* — the grey-top tubes have a special preservative and anti-coagulant that those found in hospitals/clinics do not have. You will always submit a urine sample if you submit a blood sample.

If the possible ingestion occurred more than 24 hours earlier, but less than 120 hours, collect a DIRTY urine sample (instruct patient not to wipe after voiding) of 30-100ml and refrigerate it. If this sample is not the first void since the assault, document the total number of times the patient has voided since the assault.

These toxicology kits are given to law enforcement with the SAECK ... be sure to remind the officer that the urine needs to be refrigerated/frozen.



Urine Tox Kit



Blood Tox Kit