



Sexual Assault Response Services

of Southern Maine

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THE RIGHTS OF THE RAPE SURVIVOR

The rape victim/survivor has the right:

1. To transportation to the appropriate facility for assessment, treatment, and documentation of the sexual assault.
2. To receive emergency medical care for treatment of injuries in such a manner as to not destroy fragile evidence.
3. To emergency care with privacy and confidentiality.
4. To be listened to carefully and treated as a human being, with respect, courtesy, and dignity.
5. To have an advocate from a local sexual assault center accompany her/him through the process.
6. To be given as much credibility as a victim of any other crime.
7. To be considered a victim of rape regardless of the assailant's relationship to her/him.
8. To have her/his name kept from the news media.
9. Not to be asked details about prior sexual experience.
10. Not to be exposed to prejudice against race, age, class, life-style, or occupation.
11. To be asked only those questions that are relevant to a court case or to medical treatment.
12. To be treated in such a manner that does not usurp her/his control but enables the victim to determine her/his own needs and how to meet them.
13. To receive medical and mental health services, regardless of whether the rape is reported to the police.
14. To be protected from future assault.
15. To accurate collection and preservation of evidence for court in an objective record that includes the signs and symptoms of physical and emotional trauma.
16. To receive a clear explanation of procedures and medications in a language she/he can understand.
17. To know what treatment is recommended and for what reasons.
18. To refuse to be part of any research.
19. To make reasonable complaints and refuse treatment.
20. To receive an explanation of and understand any paper she/he agrees to sign.
21. To understand that she/he will not be charged for any part of the evidentiary collection procedure.
22. To appropriate referral to agencies to meet her/his continuing health care needs after the exam.

Help, Hope, and Healing