

I. General Considerations

- A. Encourage the patient to be treated at a medical care facility. Sexual assault is a medical emergency.
 - B. Seek only that information that is required to adequately treat the patient. Do not ask unnecessary questions concerning the incident.
 - C. A secondary exam must be performed to identify additional injuries.
 - D. Injuries of a non-sexual nature may have occurred and should also be treated.
 - E. Be careful to preserve evidence where possible. Do not remove any clothing unless necessary to treat the patient. Do not wash the patient.
 - F. It may be helpful to have a crew member of the same sex as the patient provide most contact.
 - G. Your involvement in this patient's care may later become part of the legal process. Good documentation of all findings is essential.
 - H. EMS personnel are reminded of their responsibility to report incidents of abuse/neglect to children and elderly patients. See Abuse/Neglect protocol.
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II. History

Perform a focused history and physical exam with particular attention to:

- A. Ask the patient to describe any complaints of injury.
 - B. Was there a loss of consciousness?
 - C. Obtain a history of medical problems?
 - D. What medications has the patient been, or is the patient supposed to be, taking (including over the counter medications)?
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III. Physical Examination

- A. Perform an initial assessment.
 - B. Perform a focused history and physical exam.
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IV. Treatment

{If other conditions are present, follow the appropriate protocol(s).}

Basic

- A. Establish an airway, maintain as indicated, suction as needed.
- B. Control external bleeding.
- C. Administer high concentration oxygen if indicated.
- D. Treat injuries.
- E. Reassure the patient.