

## **Forensic Examiner Salaries during Training**

**SART Listserv  
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**Issue:** How do SARTs pay nurses' salaries during their forensic exam training time and clinicals?

**Background:** We are in the process of starting SART teams in the counties we serve. As part of that process, the Attorney General's Office is going to provide SANE training (without charge) at the end of March. The training is eight days. We may be able to get the hospitals to pay their nurses salaries, but others who are going to participate in the training work for smaller organizations.

### **Alaska**

- The hospital will pay for cost of training, travel, lodging, and salary.
- In return we ask for a two year commitment to our program.

### **Illinois**

- The primary employer pays for the didactic portion for the most part.
- Some of the nurses who have attended training actually have taken their vacation to attend.
- The majority of the nurses have done the clinical time on their own time.
- A few hospitals have actually paid their clinical time, but very few.

### **Michigan (Battle Creek)**

- The nurses' primary employers pay their salaries during SANE didactic training as community support for the program.
- Most nurses then do their clinical training on their own time.

### **New York (Suffolk County)**

- The SANE/SART training through NYS Coalition against Sexual Assault (NYSCASA) is 3 days didactic and clinical and 2 days via computer which can be at the trainees' discretion (it has to be done within 60 days of the last clinical day).
- They also have to go through a pelvic exam competency preceptorship with after that.
- The trainees pay their costs up front, but we have been able to reimburse them through grants and sometimes through the District Attorney's office.

## Ohio

- To get financial support, I would explain the benefits of the SANE program to the hospital administration that hosts the SANE programs (ED supervisors, Clinical Managers, Medical director etc.)
  - Keeps the ED flowing without interruption in staff
  - Improved reimbursement rates for kits which follow protocol (in Ohio the AG's office pays for kits done correctly)
  - Improved relations with local law enforcement (working with specific group of RN's not the entire ED)
  - Consistent care of the SA patient
  - Verbalize pride that this is a specialty provided by the hospital for the community
  - Market SANEs to the community - generally improved prosecution rate.
  - Reinforce that the RN's taking the course are committed to the program. If the hospital pays for the RN to attend the course and her clinicals, get in writing a Byrd commitment from the RN to work for the program
  - Demonstrate that it would be cost effective for the hospital to pay for either the training or pay for the course.

## Texas

- We serve rural counties. The nurses who were trained took their own personal time and some did so without pay.
- We raised money to pay for nurses' hotel, food and gas when they traveled to San Antonio for clinicals. (This averages overall about \$500-\$700 for each nurse because they may have to go 2-4 times [for 2-3 days] depending on how many exams they perform).