



When things don't go right: sexual assault exam billing and payment- It's TIME for a change!

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Acknowledgements

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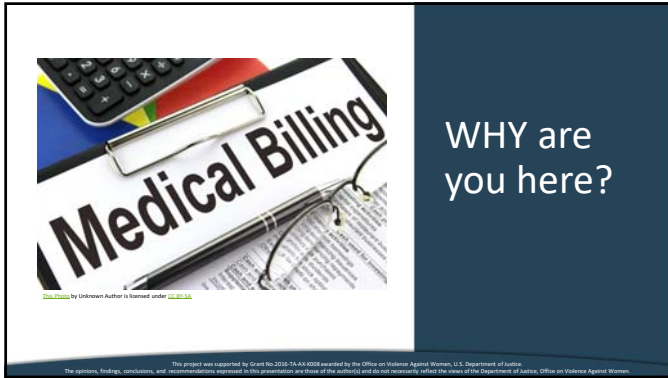


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Medical Billing

WHY are you here?

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After attending this presentation you will be able to:

- Outline the current VAWA requirements for the medical forensic exam
- Discuss some of the current events in the news related to billing for exams
- Strategize approaches that can be unique to assist states/tribes/communities/institutions to assure that victims' healthcare needs are met AND that they are not being billed in error
- Strategize methods of support for victims who are failed by the system

Objectives

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What is a medical forensic exam?

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1. Examination provided to a sexual assault victim
 2. By medical personnel trained to gather evidence of a sexual assault
 3. In a manner suitable for use in a court of law.

Minimum requirements for the exam include:

- Examination of physical trauma;
- Determination of penetration or force;
- Patient interview (history);
- Collection and evaluation of evidence.


VAWA defines the Medical Forensic Exam

From: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-1995-04-18/pdf/95-9615.pdf>

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The Medical Forensic Exam



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WHAT does your state pay for?

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Full out-of pocket cost for exams covered

- For the purpose of gathering evidence of sexual assault

No requirement to report or cooperate with LE

- To receive medical forensic exam

VAWA 2005
Violence Against Women Act

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Full out-of pocket cost for exams covered

- For the purpose of gathering evidence of sexual assault

No requirement to report or cooperate with LE

- To receive medical forensic exam

Notify victims that the exams are available without cost

VAWA 2013
Violence Against Women Act

From: FAQs about Stop Formula Grants, 2017

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Add picture of LE

Add photo of victims comp logo

add in photo to depict insurance

Add in special fund photo

WHO pays for exams in your state?

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Can Insurance be billed?

VAWA 2013
Violence Against Women Act

From: [FAQs about Stop Formula Grants, 2017](#)

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The Division will reimburse the provider for reasonable forensic medical exam expenses. These include appropriate procedures for acquiring evidence that may be used in a criminal proceeding against a person charged with a sex crime, and suturing and care of wounds associated directly with the sex crime, including anesthesia and prescribed medication. The interpretation of these services is at the discretion of the Division.

The Division is unable to process this invoice and the same is denied because the evidence collected was past the 120 hour guideline set by the National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations 2nd Edition.

Please note that pursuant to I.C. 16-21-8-6 and I.C. 5-2-6.1-39, a provider may not charge a victim for services provided under I.C. 16-21-8-1 as a result of a sexual assault.

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Forensic Medical Examination Revised Bill Description

This worksheet outlines the Forensic Medical Examination Program's description of an assigned bill. To proceed with the verification process on a bill, the bill **MUST BE COMPLETED**. Therefore, please send a bill that provides the following information:

1. Provider(s) name, address and phone number.
2. Accurate number of appointments.
3. Details of Service (check each service once provided).
4. A description of all fee services provided (e.g. supervisor's fee for the forensic medical examination facility fee, identification, etc.).
5. Charges for each service provided.
6. Total charges.

How much does an exam cost??

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WHO needs to know about not billing the patient???



- Forensic Examiner
- Emergency Department staff (including providers so they do not send bills)
- Registration to code them accurately initially
- Coding/Billing personnel when processing bills
- Pre hospital:
 - Law Enforcement/EMS to be able to educate the patient if concerned about cost of healthcare.
 - Advocates to be able to educate and assist with completion of reimbursement application

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Contact the International
 Forensic Nurses
 Association

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 1-410-626-7805

Thank you!

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