6. Coordinated Multiagency Sexual Assault Response and Review Pathway

Point of access

Health and Psychosocial needs assessment

Initial Disclosure

Pathway choices offered and supported throughout with informed choice and consent

Trauma support established

Has the individual decided to report to the police at this stage?

Was the sexual assault within the last 7* days

Does the individual wish forensic medical examination with collection and documentation of medical evidence?

Timings, location & appropriateness of forensic medical examination discussed with NHS Sexual Assault Service. Gender appropriate examiner arrangements made

Health aftercare and psychosocial needs assessment offered including NHS assessment of sexual health risks and follow up arrangements

Early evidence collection: urine, wipe, clothing where appropriate with chain of evidence

Specialist NHS Forensic Medical Examination
Includes where relevant:
Examination and documentation of injuries
Forensic specimen collection (within 7 days)*
Colposcopy / proctoscopy video documentation
Emergency contraception
HIV HBV HAV PEPSE risk assessment
STI Screening (2 weeks post assault)
Aftercare and psychosocial needs assessment

Follow up care & on going trauma informed support
Offer a choice of services to the individual
E.g. independent advocacy, domestic violence services, sexual health, counselling services, mental health and addictions services, learning disability support, GP, social work, housing care services, SOLO, court advocacy, victim support, subject to local determination

For Police cases
Forensic specimens submitted to Police with SPA support form

Non-Police cases*
Forensic specimens securely stored
Can only be offered where approved protocol for use, storage and later processing of evidence meeting legal requirements in place

Any immediate safety issue, child or adult protection concerns or overriding mental or physical health concerns should be assessed and arrangements made

Police Scotland contacted on 101 to report rape or sexual assault

Police Investigation
Sexual offences
Link Officer appointed
Gender appropriate
SOLO explains investigation process

*people who have experienced rape and sexual assault can present at any time however the forensic opportunities will be dependent on when people present