

The Sexual Assault Examination

- Debbi Robison, RN SANE-A SANE-P FNE
Northern Nevada CARES/SART Program

Northern Nevada CARES/SART

- CARES: Child Abuse Response and
EvaluationS

12 and younger
Non acute assault
MD/NP

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- SART: Sexual Assault Response Team
13 and older
Acute examinations-Evidence Collection
Up to 7 days after assault.

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- Washoe County Child Advocacy Center
Kids Kottage Campus on Longley Lane.
Non-medical facility setting

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**Meet and Greet
Nurse and Advocate**

- Opportunity to develop a trust relationship
- No parents, no family, no SO, etc
- Consent – regardless of age (13 and up)

Consent

- Examination
- Photos/Video
- Treatment
- Release of information
- Research
- HIV test

History

- **Medical History**
- pre,post,peri-menopause, estrogen issues
- hysterectomy
- pregnancy
- bleeding issues-medications

History

- History of assault.
- Where the person was touched is where I am going to look for evidence.

Speciman Collection

- **Variables**
- Clothing
- Legal Drug Testing
- Environmental Debris
- Skin Swabs
- Dental Floss

Examination

- Not designed for disease detection-for this reason no STI testing.
- Medical only because the crime scene is a human body
- Differentiation between disease and trauma

Examination

- Head to toe external assessment
- alternative light source
- photographs
- skin swabs



Woods lamp visualization



Examination

- Internal Examination
- Oral injury
- Genital injury
- Rectal injury

Examination

- External Genitalia
- observe folds for hidden tears
- hymeneal tissue-is the hymen intact?
- foley catheter

Examination

- Internal genital examination
- any debris in vaginal vault is evidence
- cervical condition
- differentiation between trauma and normal tissue

Examination

- Toluidine Blue Dye

Toluidine Blue Dye



The End of the Examination

- Clothing
- Instructions
- Medication
- Pregnancy counseling
- HIV test results
- Safety Issues
- Follow Up

Jurisdictional Issues

- Crime Lab
- What do the detectives expect
- Report in a timely manner
- Be prepared to go to court.

Documentation

- Check list
- Pictures
- Video

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- 12 and under
- Must “assent” to examination
- Discourage parents in room for exam
- Head to toe exam, with Pediatrician or Nurse Practitioner

CARES

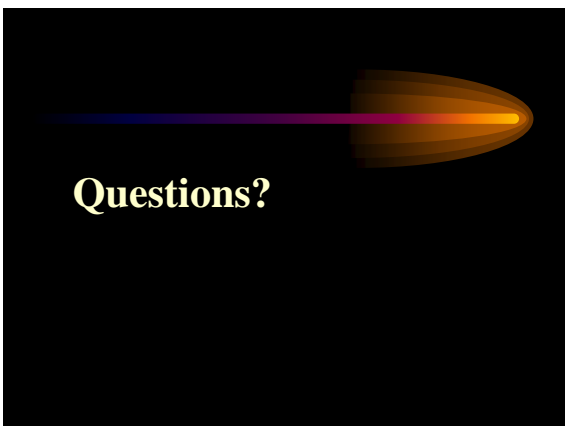
- Video exam of genitalia
- 95-97% of the time examination is normal
- It is normal to be normal
- DNA-not as available on the body after 24 hours

CARES

- So, why do an examination?
- Children and parents are reassured that they are normal and healthy.
- Diagnose medical conditions that may mimic injury.









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