

Greetings!

We hope all of you are enjoying the Spring Season! Today we are highlighting forensic interviews for <u>child victims of sexual assault</u>.

- The law governing DCVC's response to adult sexual assault victims: S.C Code of Laws, Section 16-3-1350 also applies to acute child victims of sexual assault
- DCVC follows the same SLED Acute Protocol for both children and adult who presents to the emergency room.
- ✤ A child aged 17 and under must have an exam performed within 120 hours to qualify as an acute sexual assault exam
- ✤ A child aged 17 or younger cannot file anonymously
- NO VICTIM IN SOUTH CAROLINA SHOULD EVER BE BILLED FOR A RAPE EXAM, NOR SHOULD THEIR HEALTH INSURANCE. ALSO NEVER SEND A RAPE VICTIM'S ACCOUNT TO COLLECTIONS. Always call or email Ruth Brockman for questions or concerns, regarding any billing issues that you may have (see contact information below).

The DCVC EBLAST! Is now reaching 65 hospitals in South Carolina as well as providers and allies across the state. We surveyed each hospital about their sexual assault responders and found the following: a) 27 hospitals have some SANE presence; b) 17 have No SANE presence; & c) 21 hospitals have not responded. Please contact Lu Shirley at LShirley@SCAG.gov, who is maintaining our list serve

**Note:** Please forward this email to anyone you believe should be a recipient of the EBLAST! Or send us the email of someone who should receive the EBLAST! So we can add them to the list; Let us know if you <u>do not</u> want to receive the EBLAST!

Sincerely,

Ruth Brockman <u>RBrockman@SCAG.gov</u> Claims Analyst



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