

SEXUAL ASSAULT/HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Indication

- Patients with complaints consistent with sexual assault or evidence of human trafficking
- Human trafficking involves labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery
- Commercial sex acts through the use of force, fraud or coercion
- Any commercial sex act, if the person is under 18 years of age, regardless of whether any form of coercion is involved

- BLS/ALS RMC
- Calm/reassure patient
- Assign responder of same gender as patient if possible

Treat medical conditions, traumatic injuries per protocol

- Transport to an appropriate Marin County hospital, following the Destination Guidelines Policy

If patient/Designated Decision Maker refuses transport

- Instruct patient not to bathe, shower, or change clothes until after contact with and advice by law enforcement. Advise patient of alternative care/transport options per AMA and RAS policy

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- If patient's clothing is removed and law enforcement is not at scene, place clothing in a paper bag and bring to the hospital. Do not use a plastic bag
- A patient who requires/requests a specialized evidentiary examination will first be transported to a Marin County hospital. Once medically cleared, the patient will be transported by the appropriate law enforcement agency to a Sexual Assault Exam Center

Critical Information

- Preserve possible evidence and advise patient not to clean, bathe or change clothes until examination by hospital personnel
- Notify police and dispatch of nature of call
- EMS personnel are encouraged to report to local law enforcement suspected human trafficking cases
 - Warning signs of human trafficking include:
 - Individuals who are segregated from contact with others, or don't have control of their own ID/documents
 - Locations with unsuitable living conditions or unreasonable security measures
 - Incidents where responders are approached and asked for protection/asylum from other individuals at a scene
 - For suspected human trafficking, offer the patient the 24/7 National Human Trafficking hotline number: 1-888-373-7888 or they can text "HELP" or "INFO" to 233733