

Guidance for Hospitals: Transportation of Sexual Assault Survivors

Key Considerations

- Transfer Hospitals and Treatment Hospitals within an Areawide Treatment Plan should determine which facility will assume responsibility for ensuring appropriate transportation is provided upon the completion of medical forensic services back to the Transfer Hospital where the Sexual Assault Survivor initially presented seeking medical forensic services, unless the survivor chooses to arrange their own transportation.
- A risk assessment should be performed prior to allowing the transfer of a Sexual Assault Survivor in a personal vehicle (i.e. pediatric, drug or alcohol facilitated, etc.).
 - Unless there is a health or safety concern, hospitals should honor the Sexual Assault Survivor's choice of transportation.
 - Ask the survivor "What mode of transportation do you feel is safest for you?"
 - Provide the Sexual Assault Survivor with options (see the included list below)
 - If there are any concerns for the health or safety of the Sexual Assault Survivor, then transportation in a personal vehicle should not be permitted and another mode of transportation should be selected.
- Consider the Sexual Assault Survivor's ability to pay for transportation and ensure that the survivor is not charged for anything that the hospital arranges.
- Ensure that the survivor is not waiting for an extended period of time for transportation, regardless of which method is chosen.

Transportation Options

- **Ambulance:** Ensure that the survivor will not be billed for this service
- **Family member/Support person:** Consider providing the family member with a gas card for transport to the treatment facility and back from the treatment facility
- **Law Enforcement:** Consider if the survivor is comfortable with receiving transportation from the law enforcement officer
 - Ensure that the survivor will be provided with transportation to the treatment facility AND back from the treatment facility
- **Medicar/Medivan:** Ensure that the survivor will not be billed for this service
- **Rideshare:** Consider using Uber Business or another professional ride share service where a voucher would be provided for the survivor's transport to the treatment facility and back from the treatment facility
- **Survivor self-transport:** Consider providing the survivor with a gas card for transport to the treatment facility and back from the treatment facility
 - Remember that this is a survivor transfer so the survivor should be brought immediately back to the treatment area upon arrival. Provide the survivor with information on where to present at the Treatment Facility for immediate care.
- **Taxi:** Consider providing a taxi voucher for transport to the treatment facility and back from the treatment facility