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**An Overview of MA Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)
Services for Pre-Hospital Providers**

Overview

The MA Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program currently provides a 24/7, emergency response for sexual assault patients across the Commonwealth in 29 hospitals that have been designated as MA SANE sites by the MA Department of Public Health (DPH) (See listing below). MA SANEs are trained and certified by DPH to provide specialized, forensic care for sexual assault patients, and to provide court testimony if a case moves forward to prosecution. In addition, in 2 hospitals, MetroWest Medical Center and Steward St. Anne's Hospital, MA TeleSANEs are providing virtual support and guidance to emergency clinicians, using telemedicine technology, as part of a federal pilot project funded by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), Department of Justice*.

Patient Eligibility

MA Adult/Adolescent SANE services are provided for patients, 12 years and older, when an assault has occurred within a 120 hours/5 day period. In addition, Adult/Adolescent SANEs, in the Northeast and Cape/Islands have been cross-trained in the use of the MA Pediatric Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (MA PEDI KIT) for use with children 11 years and younger, when an assault occurred within a 3 day/72 hour period**.

MA SANE Emergency Response

When paged by hospital personnel, MA SANE-certified practitioners respond within approximately one hour to care for sexual assault victims, ages 12 years and older (and 11 years and younger in designated sites**). Care is generally provided in the emergency department but can be delivered in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) or Operating Room (OR), if necessary. MA SANE care includes: obtaining the history of assault/abuse, performing a physical examination, collecting forensic evidence with toxicology testing as appropriate, ensuring access to time-sensitive medications to prevent assault-related pregnancy and to minimize the risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. MA SANEs are mandated reporters for abuse involving children, elders and disabled persons. MA SANEs provide a trauma-informed approach to care that incorporates the concepts of patient empowerment, control and choice. MA SANEs provide a partnered response with a local community-based rape crisis center advocate, and facilitate law enforcement notification if the patient chooses.

MA TeleSANE Response

At hospitals receiving TeleSANE support, MA SANEs will respond virtually through the use of telemedicine technology to guide and support clinicians through the process of sexual assault care and forensic evidence collection. Local community rape crisis advocates will respond in person at these 2 locations.

MA SANE Sites - MA SANE Services are currently available at the following hospitals:

Region 1

Western MA Region

Berkshire Medical Center
Baystate Medical Center
Baystate Wing Hospital
Cooley Dickinson Hospital
Mercy Medical Center

Region 2

Central MA Region

Harrington Memorial Hospital
Milford Regional Medical Center
St. Vincent's Hospital
UMASS Memorial Hospital
UMASS University Hospital

Region 3

Northeast MA Region

Lawrence General Hospital**

Region 4

Boston Region

Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital
Boston Medical Center
Brigham and Women's Hospital

Cambridge Hospital

Children's Hospital – Boston
Massachusetts General Hospital
Newton Wellesley Hospital

Region 5

Southeast MA Region

Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital - Plymouth
Brockton Hospital
Charlton Hospital
Morton Hospital
South Shore Hospital
St. Luke's Hospital
Tobey Hospital

Cape and Islands

Cape Cod Hospital**
Falmouth Hospital**
Nantucket Cottage Hospital**

MA TeleSANE Sites

MetroWest Medical Center*
Steward St. Anne's Hospital*

* These hospitals are currently receiving TeleSANE support by MA SANEs as part of a federal pilot projected funded by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) 2012-NE-BX-K001.

** MA Adult/Adolescent SANEs responding to these hospitals have been cross-trained in the use of the MA PEDI Kit and will respond to these hospitals to care for pediatric patients (11 years and younger) when a sexual assault has occurred within 72 hours of the child's presentation.

MA SANE Staff may be contacted to assist with specific questions or patient concerns (See Attachment A).