

Sexual Assault procedures and management

The information provided is to assist a person who has been sexually assaulted to access medical treatment and psychological support and to report the sexual assault.

Option 1:

Report the incident to the police - Beaufort Street. This allows you to open a criminal case and the police then accompany you to Settler's Hospital to receive medical treatment and to collect forensic evidence needed to assist in the prosecution.

Medical treatment includes post exposure prophylaxis, pregnancy prevention and STI prevention.

Please note that it is not helpful to go to Settler's Hospital first if you are wanting to open a case of sexual assault – you need to report the case at the police station before you can proceed with the collection of forensic evidence.

In order to preserve all evidence possible for the forensic examination, you are advised **not to –**

- Wash or shower or bathe
- Wash hands
- Use the toilet or discard your underwear or sanitary products
- Remove, change, discard or wash any clothing or bedding or towels that could be used for evidence
- Smoke
- Clean teeth
- Eat or drink anything
- Disturb the scene in any manner
- Destroy or delete any evidence such as text messages on your cell phone, e-mails or social media

Option 2.

Contact the Health Care Centre. The HCC can provide post exposure prophylaxis, pregnancy prevention and STI treatment if you do not want to open a criminal case with the SAPS . If you are unsure about whether you want to open a case - please discuss this with the professional nurse or the psychologist on call. Once you have received treatment at the HCC, the option of collecting forensic evidence via the hospital is not possible – so it doesn't allow for the collection of forensic evidence for legal purposes or prosecution at a later stage.

To contact the Health Care Centre

- During office hours – 046 603 8523
- After hours and weekends – 082 801 1409

To contact the psychologist on call

- During office hours – 046 603 7070
- After hours and weekends – 082 803 0177

To contact CPU for immediate assistance – 046 603 8146

CPU is available 24/7 and can assist you in contacting the relevant professionals and or the SAPS.

Harassment Office

To report sexual assault or sexual harassment contact the Harassment Office - Mrs Nomangwane Mrwetyana by contacting n.mrwetyana@ru.ac.za or making an appointment at counsellingcentre@ru.ac.za or 046 - 603 7070.