**Physical exams paired with a forensic interview improve case outcomes**

*Sexual assault and abuse exams strengthen cases and benefit your child*

As a parent you have the right to refuse a physical exam of your child.

Before making a decision, know these facts:

* The purpose of the exam is to assess the physical and mental well-being of your child.
* The exam is not like adult exams. There are no internal implements or instruments.
* There are no shots.
* The exam is 100% free.
* Your child is in control. No part of the exam is forced or uses restraints.
* Trained forensic examiners are credentialed experts and have experience working with children.
* We want to let your child know they are not damaged, it was not their fault, and they are completely normal.
* The entire process from start-to-finish is about 60-90 minutes.
* Even if your child has been seen by a doctor, we strongly recommend you bring your child to a forensic examiner.
* Unless the event occurred in the last 72 hours, the exam doesn’t have to be today.

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| **Contact information for medical referrals** |
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