



PennState

SAFE-T Center™

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Telehealth Center

Expert Care. Everywhere.



No matter where sexual assault victims live, they should have access to expert care. And no matter where nurses work, they should have access to a network of experts who specialize in sexual assault care. Forensic exams performed with expert nurse mentoring and quality assurance via telehealth can be the first step toward healing; providing victims with a safe, supportive environment.



Development of a community based team

The SAFE-T Center will facilitate the development of a locally-based sexual assault treatment team, consisting of nurses, advocates, SANEs, and community partners



Provide teams with specialized technology

Through our specialized encrypted telehealth technology, expert nurses are in the room during exams via our secure mobile telehealth cart featuring advanced digital photo documentation capabilities



Live, 24/7 support during exams

Local nurses have support and mentorship during exams, ensuring best practices, proper evidence collection and a safe, helpful environment for the patient

Development of a community based team

- Timely, holistic, compassionate, and person-centered care with emphasis on the forensic examination process being the first step in the patient's healing
- Access to SAFE-T Center Sexual Assault Forensic Education and Training Program including both distance and in-person education opportunities
- Hospital compliance with Sexual Assault Victim Emergency Services (SAVES) Regulations
- Team approach between nurse examiners and victim advocates to provide the very best patient care experience possible
- Funding to help support local Sexual Assault Forensic team training, equipment and supply needs, conference attendance, and/or dedicated nurse time to SAFE-T Center program implementation



"We have a county wide sexual assault protocol that probably would have never happened without the SAFE-T Center."
-Nurse, Penn Highlands Huntingdon

Provide teams with specialized technology

- Mobile telehealth cart with easy to use technology
- 24/7 technology support provided by Penn State for all SAFE-T Center provided equipment, limits strain and demand on hospital IT teams
- Photographic documentation that is forensically defensible in court
- Connect with an expert TeleSANE 24/7 for live exam support and real-time peer review
- Telehealth addresses disparities by increasing access to expert care



"The one exam that I did attend where the SAFE-T Center program took place, that client is still very active, still receiving follow up services counseling. So I think it builds a stronger rapport in the initial visit and encourages them to receive follow up care."
-Advocate, HAVEN of Tioga County

Live, 24/7 support during exams

- Partnership with expert nurse likely to lower local nurse anxiety, allowing for a patient-focused versus task-focused exam
- Pre and post consultation review and debrief between local nurse and PSU TeleSANE
- Over 95% of patients choose the SAFE-T telehealth supplemented service at the time of a sexual assault exam.
- Telehealth sexual assault nurse examiners (TeleSANEs) have additional training and expertise in culturally sensitive and diversity focused patient-centered care
- Observing national guidelines and best practices, the Center provides evidence-based support for providers and their patients



"Just knowing that there is always going to be somebody on call who is available to help us no matter what...I think that's definitely the best piece of it."
-Nurse, Penn Highlands Dubois

Contact the SAFE-T Center™

