REGION I EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
STANDING MEDICAL ORDERS
EMT – Basic, EMT – Intermediate, EMT – Paramedic

SMO: Gynecologic Emergencies:
Rape / Sexual Assault

Overview: Sexual assault is one of the fastest growing and serious crimes in America. Sexual assault refers to any genital, anal, oral, or manual penetration of the victim's body, by way of force or without the victim's consent

INFORMATION NEEDED

__ History of assault
__ Initial assessment of patient
__ Focused assessment of patient

OBJECTIVE FINDINGS

___ Victims may behave in a variety of ways
___ Some may be surprisingly calm and seem in control of their emotions
___ Others may be agitated, apprehensive, distraught, or tearful
___ After managing all threats to life, proceed with care by providing emotional support to the victim.

TREATMENT

__ Routine trauma care where indicated.
__ Victims of sexual assault should not be questioned in detail about the incident
__ Limit the history to elements necessary to provide emergency medical care
__ Take steps to preserve any evidence

- Do not allow the patient to urinate or defecate (if possible), douche, or bathe
- Do not remove evidence from any part of the body that was subjected to sexual contact
- Notify law enforcement personnel as soon as possible
- Be aware there will be a "chain of evidence" with specific requirements of proof

Documentation of adherence to protocol:

__ Documentation of any preservation of evidence

PRECAUTIONS AND COMMENTS

- When possible an EMT of the same gender should provide any required medical care
- Do not leave the patient alone
- Document if patient requests to call someone