MEDICAL CHECKLIST FOR INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Interviewing children under the age of 18, and/or documentation of cases involving children under age of 18 should be done in the presence of an adult or guardian, as chosen by the child.

**KEY GUIDELINES**
- No decision is made without the INFORMED CONSENT of the survivor, children have the right to participate in decision making processes
- Conduct discussions in private settings with same-sex staff
- NEVER blame the survivor
- Be a good listener, and non-judgmental
- Be patient: do not press for information she does not want to share
- Ask only relevant questions
- Avoid the survivor having to repeat her story in multiple interviews
- Do not laugh, show disrespect or disbelief
- At all times, prioritize survivor and staff safety and security
- Always observe the guiding principles of SAFETY, BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD, CONFIDENTIALITY, RESPECT, AND NON-DISCRIMINATION
- All patients have the right to health care, non-discrimination, information, privacy, confidentiality, and self-determination/child participation

**PRIORITIES FOR HEALTH CARE:**

**POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS:**
- Give to patient within 72 hours/3 days after exposure to blood or semen
- Prevents HIV infection
- 28 days course of zidovudine and lamivudine, give 1st dose immediately
- Do NOT insist on HIV test before giving drug
- Does NOT treat HIV if a patient already is infected

**EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVES:**
- Give to women and girls within 5 days after vaginal intercourse
- Prevents pregnancy
- Is NOT an abortion method
- Does NOT affect an already existing pregnancy if the women/girl was pregnant before the rape

**SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS:**
- Give antibiotics to patients after intercourse to treat sexually transmitted infections
- Give to patient within 2 weeks after intercourse
- Treats chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis
- No treatment available for warts

**Possible Results of Seeking Support (for survivor information):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENEFITS</th>
<th>CONSEQUENCES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prevention of HIV infection</td>
<td>Compromised confidentiality and safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prevention of pregnancy as a result of rape</td>
<td>Possible inappropriate treatment by service providers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treatment of sexually transmitted infections</td>
<td>Incident reported to others: the police, community leaders, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treatment of injuries</td>
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<td>Access to emotional and psychosocial support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Able to conduct forensic report and file case with police/court</td>
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**Always keep the best interest of the child in mind, and provide everyone with quality services!**