

MEMO

TO: All Agencies  
FROM: Travis Wilson, EMS System Director  
DATE: May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
SUBJECT: Sexual Assault Transports

Agencies,

Due to recent changes in state law, the Illinois Department of Public Health has required hospitals to have special resources available for sexual assault patients. When transporting a patient of sexual assault its important to note that a patients choice is one of the primary determining factors for what hospital a patient may be transported to, additionally, a patient who has a life threat or is in extremis should be transported to the closes facility. We must also educate our patients about hospitals capabilities when transporting so that they have full knowledge of hospitals ability to assist with their situation. EMS goal is to limit unnecessary stress on patients of sexual assault, and by providing full education to patients of appropriate facilities this can help limit that stress.

It is important to note that patients still can be transported to any hospital, but whether services specific to sexual assault evidence collection is done may not be completed at those facilities and patients will need to be transferred to an appropriate facility later.

**Area Hospitals**

Hospital	Sexual Assault Treatment Facility or Transfer Facility	Treatment for Pediatrics (Patients 12 and younger)
Advocate BroMenn	Treatment	Transfer
OSF St. Joseph	Treatment	Treatment
Warner Hospital	Transfer	Transfer
St. Margaret's	Transfer	Transfer
IVCH	Transfer	Transfer
OSF St. James	Transfer	Transfer
OSF St. Francis	Treatment	Treatment
Pekin Hospital	Transfer	Transfer
Methodist	Treatment	Transfer
Hopedale	Transfer	Transfer
Carle Hospital	Treatment	Treatment
Decatur Memorial	Treatment	Transfer

**Treatment Facility** – Means the hospital can provide forensic and evidence collection of a patient who experienced a sexual assault

**Transfer Facility** – Means the hospital can treat any life threats, however the patient will need to be transferred to another facility for evidence collection/forensics of the sexual assault

**Pediatric Facility** – Specific to sexual assault evidence collection, this is for patients age 12 years and younger. If patient is brought to an adult treatment facility or transfer facility, any life threats or other

related issues may receive treatment, however they will need to be transferred to a pediatric specific facility for evidence collection of a sexual assault.

## **Notes**

\*It is important to note that this memo is specific to sexual assault evidence collection.

\*This is specific to events that have occurred within the last 7 days. If a patient experienced a sexual assault greater than 7 days, they may not be transferred as it may be difficult to collect evidence by that time. Whether evidence is collected or not is at the determination of the ER physician and staff. EMS does NOT make the determination whether evidence is to be collected or not.

\*Agencies who do are in rural settings and do not typically transport to a treatment facility or are geographically distant from a treatment facility should transport the patient to the closest appropriate facility.