

No Cost Service

Regardless of whether or not you choose to pursue sexual assault charges, the cost of the sexual assault examination will be covered. There is no charge for medications that are used for the prevention of sexually transmitted infections.

Fees for additional services outside the sexual assault examination such as medications and follow-up care related to the assault will be the responsibility of the patient.



With the patient's consent, a Blanchard Valley Health System SANE will work in coordination with a rape crisis advocate, doctors and law enforcement to provide support.

Contacts for each of these resources are below:

Blanchard Valley Hospital
Emergency Department:
SANE Program
419.423.5207

Bluffton Hospital
Emergency Department:
SANE Program
419.358.9010

Community Resources

For all emergencies
911

Findlay Police Department
419.424.7150

Hancock County Sheriff's Office
419.424.7097

Allen County Sheriff's Office
419.227.3535

Open Arms Domestic Violence &
Rape Crisis Services
24-hour Crisis Hotline
419.422.4766

No one deserves to be sexually assaulted. It is NOT your fault.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Services



*Providing care and
evidence collection for
victims of sexual assault*

 **Blanchard Valley**
HEALTH SYSTEM

What is the SANE Program?

The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program at Blanchard Valley Health System provides nurses educated in sexual assault to care for and collect evidence from recent victims. Sexual assault includes any unwanted sexual contact such as kissing, touching or forced intercourse of any kind.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the Blanchard Valley Hospital Emergency Department. BVHS is able to provide this service to adults and adolescents aged 16 and older.

When should an exam be done?

The best time to receive care is as soon as possible after an assault to allow for the collection of evidence. However, it is never too late to seek care and support.

Blanchard Valley Health System provides a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) to care for and collect evidence from recent victims of sexual assault. As part of this program, specially-trained nurses assist those who have experienced sexual assault, sexual abuse or rape through skilled, sensitive medical care and connection to community resources.

This service is offered by:

Blanchard Valley Hospital Emergency Department
1900 South Main Street, Findlay

Bluffton Hospital Emergency Department
139 Garau Street, Bluffton

What will happen during an exam?

The specially trained nurse will:

- Take a history of the assault for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment
- Collect forensic evidence during a head to toe examination, including a genital exam
- Provide other immediate medical services, if needed
- Provide education regarding sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and pregnancy prevention
- Share connections to community resources for follow-up care and counseling

The SANE will also provide expert witness testimony in court, if needed.

What happens to the evidence?

Evidence collected is given to the law enforcement agency governing the location where the assault occurred. If you choose to pursue charges, the evidence results can be used in court. If you do not wish to proceed with law enforcement involvement, the evidence will still be collected and stored as an “anonymous kit.” If you change your mind and decide to pursue charges at a later date the results of the kit can then be made available.



If you have been sexually assaulted:

1. Call 911
2. Do not bathe, shower, eat, drink, use mouthwash, douche or change clothes
3. If possible, do not use the restroom
4. Tell a trusted friend or loved one who can provide support
5. A law enforcement officer can bring you to the Blanchard Valley Hospital (BVH) or Bluffton Hospital (BH) Emergency Department, or you may transport yourself. The BVH Emergency Department is located at 1900 South Main Street, Findlay and the BH Emergency Department is located at 139 Garau Street, Bluffton.

