



Center for Violence Prevention and Recovery
**Rape Crisis Intervention
Program**



Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center



A teaching hospital
of Harvard
Medical School

The Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's Rape Crisis Intervention Program, founded in 1974, was one of the first hospital-based rape crisis centers in the country. The program offers comprehensive services for survivors of sexual assault, their families, and friends.

Services Include:

- ◆ Emergency Department services 24 hrs/day offering medical care, forensic evidence collection, and crisis counseling
- ◆ Crisis counseling and trauma-focused therapy for survivors and their families and friends
- ◆ Support groups
- ◆ Follow-up medical care
- ◆ Medical accompaniment for HIV post-exposure prophylaxis
- ◆ Assistance navigating medical, criminal justice, and other institutions and systems
- ◆ Assistance accessing resources and other services
- ◆ Provider consultation
- ◆ Training sessions for your organization

All services are private, confidential, and free.

How To Contact Our Program:

- ◆ Call 617.667.8141 Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
- ◆ To page during these hours, dial 617.632.7243, page ID number 31389
- ◆ www.bidmc.harvard.edu/violenceprevention

This program is generously supported partially through the Victims of Crime Act Grant, through the 1984 VOCA grant from OVC, OIP, U.S. Department of Justice. Supplemental funding was appropriated by Congress through the Department of Defense Appropriation Act of 2002.

Sexual assault is any unwanted sexual contact where there is lack of consent and the threat or actual use of force. This includes sexual contact with a person who is unable to give consent (e.g. due to being asleep, intoxicated, drugged, or unconscious).

If You Are Sexually Assaulted:

- ◆ Go to a safe place
- ◆ Call 911 if you want police assistance
- ◆ Call someone you trust to be with you
- ◆ Do not shower, bathe, douche, brush your teeth, or throw away any clothing or objects that might contain evidence of the assault
- ◆ Save every article of clothing worn during the assault without laundering it in any way and bring it to the hospital or give it to the police
- ◆ Go to the hospital emergency department for treatment of injuries, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV) and pregnancy, forensic evidence collection (including testing for date-rape drugs), professional counseling, and information about legal options
- ◆ The emergency department will not contact police unless you request it, and they will neither ask about nor report to anyone your immigration status
- ◆ Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, as well as other hospitals, offers care free to survivors who do not have or cannot safely use their health insurance
- ◆ You may qualify for Victim Compensation to cover medical costs
- ◆ Sexual assault can cause a wide range of feelings and reactions including fear, self-doubt, loss of trust, flashbacks, sleep and appetite changes, and difficulty concentrating
- ◆ It takes time and support to recover from this trauma



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