Sexual Assault

URL of this page: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/sexualassault.html

Also called: Rape

Sexual assault is any sexual activity to which you haven't freely given your consent. This includes completed or attempted sex acts that are against your will. Sometimes it can involve a victim who is unable to consent. It also includes abusive sexual contact. It can happen to men, women or children.

The attacker can be anyone - a current or former partner, a family member, a person in position of power or trust, a friend, an acquaintance, or a stranger.

Sexual assault can affect your health in many ways. It can lead to long-term health and emotional problems. It is important to seek help if you have been assaulted. First, get to a safe place. Then dial 911 or go to a hospital for medical care. You may want to have counseling to deal with your feelings. The most important thing to know is that the assault was not your fault.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Start Here
- Sexual Assault [http://womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/sexual-assault.cfm] (Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health)

Overviews

Latest News

Prevention/Screening

Coping
- If Your Child is Raped [http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/talk/rape.html] (Nemours Foundation)

Specific Conditions
- Military Sexual Trauma [http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/docs/mst_general_factsheet.pdf] (Department of Veterans Affairs) - PDF

Related Issues

• Club Drugs (GHB, Ketamine, and Rohypnol) [http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/club-drugs-ghb-ketamine-rohypnol] NIH (National Institute on Drug Abuse)
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.drugabuse.gov/es/publicaciones/drugfacts/las-drogas-de-club-ghb-ketamina-y-rohinol]
• Date Rape Drugs [http://womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/date-rape-drugs.cfm] (Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health)

Clinical Trials
• ClinicalTrials.gov: Rape [http://clinicaltrials.gov/search/open/condition=%22Rape%22] NIH (National Institutes of Health)
• ClinicalTrials.gov: Sex Offenses [http://clinicaltrials.gov/search/open/condition=%22Sex+Offenses%22] NIH (National Institutes of Health)

Journal Articles
References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

Directories

Organizations
• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [http://www.cdc.gov/]
  Also available in Spanish [http://www.cdc.gov/spanish/]
• Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women [http://www.oww.usdoj.gov/]
• MaleSurvivor: National Organization against Male Sexual Victimization [http://www.malesurvivor.org/]
• National Center for PTSD [http://www ptsd.va.gov/]

Statistics
• National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) [http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
• Rape and Sexual Assault [http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=317] (Department of Justice)
• Sexual Violence [http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/SV-DataSheet-a.pdf] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) - PDF

Teenagers
• Date Rape [http://kidshealth.org/teen/your_mind/relationships/date_rape.html] (Nemours Foundation)
  Also available in Spanish [http://kidshealth.org/teen/en_espanol/mente/date_rape_esp.html]
• What Is Rape and Date Rape? [http://www.girlshealth.gov/safety/saferelationships/daterape.html] (Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women's Health)

Men


Women


Patient Handouts

  Also available in Spanish [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/spanish/ency/article/001955.htm]

You may also be interested in these related encyclopedia pages:


You may also be interested in these related MedlinePlus topics:


Date last updated: 5 July 2013
Topic last reviewed: 5 July 2013