

# Video Transcript: What Happens During a Rape Kit Exam

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**Speaker:** My name is Julie Gro. I am a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. We provide comprehensive services to the sexual assault patient throughout Wayne county.

**Caption:** Every two minutes, someone is sexually assaulted in the United States. That evidence is collected and preserved in a sexual assault evidence kit, commonly known as a rape kit.

**Speaker:** As women and men arrive at our clinic sites, we go through a consent and disclosure. When the patient speaks about the incident, that is what guides and directs our diagnosis and treatment we will then go into a head to toe assessment.

We will collect evidence. Each evidence and collection kit that's also known as a rape kit contains envelopes that are pre-labeled. We have the oral cavity, buccal swab, slides for the genital area, also hair combings. We will take body photographs of any body injury. We're looking for abrasions, tears, any type of point tenderness.

After, we offer the pregnancy prophylaxis and the STD prophylaxis for gonorrhea and chlamydia. Exams can take anywhere from two hours to six hours. Once the exam is completed and we collected all of our swabs, they are placed in each proper envelope. Once they're sealed everything is packaged back in the evidence collection kit. We then have a secure container that we place all evidence for law enforcement to come and pick up the evidence. We have them sign a release to maintain chain of custody.

I think there's some still bias against women. There's still a lot of victim blaming. They take on that responsibility and as we document and do everything we try to give every ownership back to that perpetrator and we reinforce that she didn't do anything wrong.