

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Program

Administered by the Missouri Department of Public Safety, Office for Victims of Crime (10/2021)

The mission of the Missouri Department of Public Safety is to protect life and property by providing services to all Missourians in cooperation with citizens, public safety agencies, and other public and private entities. Through partnerships, professionalism, and adherence to core values, DPS strives to provide a safe and secure Missouri for all citizens and visitors.

ELIGIBILITY

The **Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Program** provides reimbursement to medical providers for the cost of gathering evidence during a forensic exam, including anonymous exams, performed on patients who have been victimized by sexual violence in Missouri.

Forensic exam charges should be billed to the SAFE Program as the primary payer; however the charges *may* also be billed to the patient's health insurance carrier.

NOTE: Per Missouri statute section 595.220.6 RSMo, **the patient should NOT be billed for any forensic exam charges.**

ALLOWABLE COSTS

Allowable reimbursements include charges for the hospital facility fee (ER visit), the professional fee for the medical provider who performs the forensic exam, and certain lab tests. Reimbursement for lab testing is dependent upon the age of the patient and the type of test. See Unallowable Costs on page 2 for a list of costs unallowable through the SAFE Program.

PROCESS

Medical providers are responsible for submitting a **Claim for Reimbursement** to the SAFE Program within **90 days** of the forensic exam.

DOCUMENTATION

The required documentation should be completed at the time of the forensic exam. Fillable .pdf versions of the SAFE Program Forms can be found at <https://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/safe/>. A Claim for Reimbursement **must** include the following:



A SAFE Program Report (requires 2 signatures)—

- 1) the consent for the forensic exam by the patient, parent, guardian or requesting agency, and
- 2) the signature of the medical provider who performed the forensic exam



A SAFE Procedural Checklist—

The procedural checklist is simply a recording of the various procedures performed during the forensic exam.



An Itemized Billing Statement—

The billing invoice must include the patient information, the diagnosis codes, date of service, a description of the service provided, and itemized forensic examination charges, including current CPT codes.

COMMON BILLING CODES

For billing purposes, the most common diagnosis codes are:

T74.21XA	Adult sexual abuse, confirmed
T74.22XA	Child sexual abuse, confirmed
T76.21XA	Adult sexual abuse, suspected
T76.22XA	Child sexual abuse, suspected
Z04.41	Encounter for exam and observation following alleged adult rape
Z04.42	Encounter for exam and observation following alleged child rape

UNALLOWABLE COSTS

Other charges incurred for injuries or for medications are considered medical treatment and are allowed to be billed to the patient. Medical treatment means the treatment of all injuries and health concerns relating directly from a patient's sexual assault or victimization including, but not limited to the following:

Testing for STD's or HIV unless victim is under age 14
Any antibiotic prophylaxis
Emergency contraception
Wound care, laceration repair
Surgical procedures
Outpatient follow-up

Treatment/prophylaxis of STD's or HIV
Pregnancy testing unless under age 14
Tetanus immunization
Fractures/sprain treatment
Discharge instruction counseling

In addition to any possible medical treatment costs, the patient may require counseling or may incur lost wages as a result of the violent crime. The medical provider should refer the patient to the **Crime Victims' Compensation (CVC) Program, 573-526-6006 or 1-800-347-6881.**

CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The CVC Program financially assists people who have sustained physical, emotional, or mental harm or trauma resulting from violent crime occurring in Missouri. If the eligibility requirements are met, potential benefits may include costs associated with the patient's crime-related medical, dental, and counseling. If the victim was gainfully employed at the time of the crime, they may also be eligible for lost wages. If a victim was killed as a direct result of the crime, CVC may also help the victim's family members by assisting with the cost of funeral and burial expenses as well as loss of support to the victim's dependents if the victim was gainfully employed at the time of the crime.

To be eligible for assistance with CVC, the crime must be reported to the proper authorities. In addition to law enforcement, in the case of a sexual offense, filing a report of the offense to the proper authorities may include, but not be limited to, the filing of the report of the forensic examination by the appropriate medical provider with the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the alleged incident occurred, receiving a forensic examination, or securing an order of protection.

Eligibility through the CVC Program is not guaranteed and cannot be determined until a completed application is submitted for review and the Program has completed a thorough assessment of the crime and expenses for which compensation is being sought.

For more information about either the SAFE or CVC Programs, please visit the [Crime Victims' Compensation \(CVC\) Program](#) website, call **573-526-6006 or 1-800-347-6881** or email cvc@dps.mo.gov.