



# SAFE TEAM

PEDIATRIC SAFE SERVICES



## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

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## Glens Falls Hospital

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## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT



## Glens Falls Hospital

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT DURING YOUR VISIT AND SAFE SERVICES

You and your family deserve the very best care. Our goal is to make everyone as comfortable as possible while providing expert care from our specialized team.

### What is SAFE?

SAFE stands for Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner. Our Pediatric SAFE team at Glens Falls Hospital is made up of Registered Nurses who hold this certification.

## WHO WILL PAY FOR YOUR VISIT

You can choose to use your own insurance or choose to have New York Office of Victim Services Program cover the cost of the exam.



## YOU WILL MEET:

**A forensic examiner** is a nurse with specialized training and certification that can provide comprehensive, compassionate care to victims of sexual assault or abuse.

**A medical provider** is a physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner who will work closely with your forensic examiner to make sure all of the child's healthcare needs are addressed.

**A victim advocate** is a person trained to support patients and their families who have been sexually assaulted or abused. The advocate can provide information about counseling and can suggest resources to help you pay for medications and medical care if needed. They will also provide the child and family emotional support. Services can be offered during the exam and extend after the exam with your permission. Services are confidential and free of charge.

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT DURING YOUR VISIT AND SAFE SERVICES

### Step 1: Triage

A triage nurse will ask basic questions, obtain vital signs and obtain the child's medical history before determining whether a forensic exam is necessary.

### Step 2: Medical Screening

The child will be placed in a private room to be evaluated by a medical provider.

### Step 3: Forensic Exam (approx. 2-3 hours)

A trained forensic examiner will explain all aspects of the physical exam including a detailed genital exam and will obtain permission from the parent/guardian prior to exam. A full medical history and details of the event will be obtained. If permission is given photos may be taken. The examiner may collect evidence from the child's body using cotton swabs. Nothing is ever inserted into the child. Urine and blood samples may be requested for treatment and/or evidence. Children are never forced to participate in any aspect of the exam.

### Step 4: Discharge

Your examiner will develop a safe discharge plan for the child and provide you with additional community resources and contact information.

## CONTACT US

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