***Name of County* County**

**Procedures for Child Sexual Abuse/Assault**

**Definitions**

* Sexual Abuse – sexual molestation or exploitation of a minor by a parent or other person who has permanent or temporary care or custody or responsibility for the child’s supervision or is a relative or household member.
* Sexual Assault – engaging in any sexual act with another person by force, threat of force, or without the consent of another. If the offender is a caregiver, relative, or household member, this is sexual abuse, not sexual assault.

**Reporting**

* Sexual assaultof minors should only be reported with the minor’s consent. Sexual abuse of children and youth MUST be reported.
* Report ALL suspected child sexual abuse to the Maryland Child & Adult Protective Services Hotline

1-800-91-PREVENT (1-800-917-7383).

**Acute Cases**

* Acute child sexual abuse cases (i.e., the alleged perpetrator is a caregiver, relative, or household member) should be referred to the appropriate evaluation center for an acute medical evaluation and possible forensic evidence collection.
* Acute sexual assault cases should be offered an acute medical exam and referred to the appropriate site if an exam is desired. Exams can be done whether or not the youth chooses to report to the police.
* In addition, a child with non-acute sexual abuse or assault but having genital pain, bleeding, or discharge should be seen acutely in an appropriate evaluation center.
* Defined as:
* In a child ≤ 12 years old – abuse or assault occurred less than 72 hours/3 days ago.
* In a pubertal female within 120 hours (5 days), if body fluid exchange was likely. May do exams up to 15 days if penile-vaginal penetration & ejaculation occurred.
* Exams will be done > 5 days for extenuating circumstances: kidnapping, no bath or shower, in some acute pediatric cases.
* Sites for the evaluation of acute child sexual abuse and assault cases in *name of County* are:

## Children ≤ 12 years old – *name of hospital, location*

* Teens ≥ 13 years old – *name of hospital, location*

**Non-Acute Cases**

* Non-acute sexual abuse cases should NOT be evaluated in the Emergency Department. After a report is made to CPS/law enforcement, the family will be referred to *name of CAC or other location* for forensic interview, medical exam, and advocacy services.
* CAC Child Abuse Pediatrician: *name of pediatrician and phone number*