**INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS** 

Medizinische Soforthilfe nach Vergewaltigung

# If you are not sure whether you have been understood well, please ask if someone can translate for you.

You have had a medical examination today, because you have suffered a sexual assault. Sexual acts that are performed against your will are punishable as a criminal offence.

# If you have informed the police - a criminal complaint has been filed with the authorities.

The police is now required to investigate what has happened.

Therefore your medical exam is done on behalf of the police and the rules about medical confidentiality do not apply.

The doctor has to tell the police everything you told him/her and explain your injuries. Maybe later on the doctor has to testify on court.

The police will be given all evidence secured during your examination for further analysis (blood, urine, perhaps your clothes).

If in the coming days you discover more injuries, please inform the police without delay.

# If you come to the hospital without the police - a formal criminal complaint has not been filed.

The hospital will not report the offence to the police, unless you request it.

You can ask to be medically examined and to receive medical care.

The doctor is bound by medical confidentiality. That means she or he may not tell anyone what you have said and discussed, not even the police.

If you wish, pieces of evidence (blood, urine, perhaps underwear or a t-shirt) will be secured and safeguarded.

If you report the offence to the police within a year after the assault the police will then have the evidence analysed. That analysis might help you in a legal proceeding.

All evidence that is secured on your behalf will be kept for a year (or until your 19th birthday, if you are under eighteen). You can still report the offence to the police much later, even if no physical evidence remains available.

You are encouraged to seek advice about this if this is important to you later.

# Important

Tell the doctor what happened.

Tell her/him how you got hurt.

Only then can you receive the correct treatment and both, your injuries and the necessary medical examinations, be properly documented.

If a blood sample is taken, the doctor will tell you, what the next steps are, and what you need to do.

# After the treatment in hospital

The hospital might recommend that you see your family doctor or a gynaecologist. Maybe you will need to get vaccinated. You may need additional medical tests. Or you might discover more injuries after today's examination that should be checked.

Please go to see the doctors recommended to you.

If you have a German health insurance, the insurance will cover the cost of your medical treatment.

### The hospital will give you a letter for other doctors.

This letter is important for all other doctors. Please take this letter with you to your next appointments.

#### If you are given a prescription

Take your prescription to a pharmacy. The pharmacist will inform you how to take the medicine.

# If you are afraid you might be pregnant

You can buy the "morning-after pill" in a pharmacy without prescription. Do not wait, go to a pharmacy immediately. You can get information in many languages from the support hotline "pregnant and in need" (Tel: **0800 40 40 020**).

# If this causes too much stress for you, ask a friend to help you.

# You are not alone. Talking can be helpful.

Call a counselling service.

We can help you solve many different problems to make you feel better.

We can talk about what you can do to get back to a safe life.

We can help you think through if you are unsure, whether you should file a criminal

complaint with the police or not.

Counselling is free of charge.

# You can find counselling services at: soforthilfe-nach-vergewaltigung.de

or here:

Stempel

or phone us: Beratungsstelle Frauennotruf Frankfurt Tel: 069-709494 www.frauennotruf-frankfurt.de We can recommend counselling services nearby your home.

