

## U13's Referral Process for the Suffolk Paediatric SARC Service

Advise can be sought from Mountain Health Care on 0330 223 099 24/7

Concerns that a Child under 13 has been sexually abused (Historic or Acute)

If there are Acute medical needs then the paediatrician medical pathway needs to be followed first (injuries needing medical attention need to be prioritised over SARC examination).

Forensic medical examiner (FME)  
Children and Young People services (CYPs)  
Sexual Abuse Referral Centre (SARC)

Refer to Customer First (MARF): have you got consent if appropriate/safe to

**Threshold/Strategy/Multiagency Discussion depending on concerns raised in referral** :- To be conducted as soon as possible upon notification being received

\*Gain/confirm consent if appropriate

\* To include CYPs, Police, Health (to include Forensic Medical Examiner (FME) ) Outside of office hours & weekend then On-call DI & Emergency Duty Social Worker to hold discussion with Forensic Medical Officer from Mountain Healthcare

\*Need to consider forensic window/acute cases \*Invite FME to discussion—Call mountain healthcare (0330 223 009). This is to get advice and to share multiagency information with the FME to aid in examination. Need to consider Risk Assessment, Sexual Health needs, Emotional Wellbeing, Distressed families .

The discussion will identify whether forensic evidence or medical examination is required and is in the best interest of the child.

SARC Referral Recommended

**Professional disagreement regarding decision:- Escalation policy to be followed**

SARC Referral not recommended

**Police and/or CYPs intervention**

\*Social Worker/Police to liaise with FME /SARC to make appointment. SARC 01473 668947. Mountain Healthcare 0330 223 0099

\*Identify if Social Worker/Police need to attend examination and confirm with SARC

\*FME report to be shared with police/social worker

**Exceptional cases:  
No police or social worker involvement**

\*MASH to consider appropriate support/CAF

\*SARC appointment to be made/arranged at point of multiagency discussion with FME. FME to alert The Ferns/ SARC .

\*MASH to inform parents of outcome of discussion and give SARC appointment details.

\*Child to attend SARC with parents. FME to complete MARF if safeguarding concerns identified at SARC

**Section 47/Social Worker assessment needed**

If new information about Child Sexual Abuse then Re Strat

**Support needed for Child/family**

\*Consider best agency to offer support /CAF

\*Consider referral to fresh start new beginnings

**NFA to CYPs (No further action)**

**Holistic Examination to be completed**

\*Examination will include forensic samples if within forensic window and STI testing if appropriate

\*Medical report/findings to be shared with social worker/police. If no SW/Police involved report to be shared with identified professional from strategy/multiagency meeting.

\*Safeguarding alert to be sent to designated safeguarding team, GP to be notified. ISVA/Fresh Start New Beginnings referral if appropriate

If there is no referral to SARC or the child declines consent then professionals should ensure the child knows how to access any additional medical care or other services they may require

**CURRENT PAED COVER 2018**  
One day a week clinic (Mon)for non recent cases.  
Acute cases on a best endeavours basis.