

Montana Department of Justice

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative

**Course “Forensic Rape Examination Payment Program
(FREPP)”**

Intro

Slide 2: Welcome to the course: Forensic Rape Examination Payment Program.

Slide 3: DISCLAIMER: This project was supported by Grant No. 2016-AK-BX-K015 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice."

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Slide 4: In this course, we will discuss what FREPP is and how it works, how to obtain kits, and how and when to send kits to FREPP.

Slide 5: Menu: Choose from the options below to learn more.

- [Forensic Rape Examination Payment Program \(FREPP\)?](#)
- [Order Rape and Toxicology Kits](#)
- [Billing](#)
- [Filing](#)
- [Continue](#) (This button will take the user to the Quiz section.)

FREPP

Slide 6: What is a forensic rape examination? A "forensic rape examination" is an examination provided to a sexual assault victim by a physician or medical professional trained to gather evidence of a sexual assault in a manner suitable for use in a court of law.

Slide 7: What is FREPP? FREPP stands for Forensic Rape Examination Payment Program. It was created to help rape victims pay for the necessary forensic rape exam. FREPP allows victims to anonymously send their kit in and not have to involve law enforcement until they choose. FREPP ensures that even if victims are not ready to report the crime to law enforcement, the forensic evidence necessary to prosecute rape cases is secured and available for up to one year. At any time between the exam and a year, the victim may contact law enforcement to report the crime. Once the incident has been reported to law enforcement, the kit will be sent to the State Crime Lab for testing.

Slide 8: A little history about FREPP. Since 2005, the Montana Department of Justice Office of Victim Services (OVS) has provided FREPP to help victims pay for the necessary medical exam. The Office of Victim Services offers a number of programs, free of charge, to victims of violent crime. For more information, please visit our website at <https://dojmt.gov/victims>.

Slide 9: Under Montana Code Annotated 46-15-411, FREPP will directly reimburse qualified healthcare providers for forensic rape examinations if:

- The victim was examined within 5 days of the crime, or
- The victim chose NOT to report the crime immediately to law enforcement.

Direct reimbursement from FREPP to providers of forensic examination services ensures that a sexual assault survivor will not pay for their own forensic examination. FREPP pays the cost of a sexual assault examination to a maximum of \$600.

Slide 10: The following services are included in FREPP's definition of a "forensic rape examination":

- Complete and customary sexual assault examination
- Emergency room/facility charge
- Physician/nurse examiner charge
- STD and pregnancy prophylaxis
- Blood and urine specimens for toxicology testing
- Supplies
- Laboratory testing
- Pharmaceuticals
- Mailing charges

It is important to note that the forensic exam must be performed within 5 days of the assault in order to obtain essential evidence. Victims are not required to receive forensic rape examinations in the state of Montana and will still be reimbursed for exams outside the state.

Order Rape and Toxicology Kits

Slide 11: The Montana rape kit contains the instructions and materials required to conduct a rape exam. The rape kit focuses mainly on evidence collection and is used to collect forensic evidence that will be sent to the state crime lab for analysis. Two kits may be necessary to perform a rape exam – a rape kit and a toxicology kit – so healthcare facilities should have both kits on hand. A toxicology kit may not always be needed, depending on whether the patient's blood and urine need to be tested for drugs and alcohol.

Slide 12: Rape kits are available free of charge from the Office of Victim Services. Call (406) 444-3653 or email hjohnson@mt.gov. For toxicology kits, call the state crime lab at (406) 728-4970 or email DOJFSDAdmin@mt.gov. Please limit toxicology kit orders to no more than six kits. They will usually ship in one or two days.

Billing

Slide 13: What would you like to learn about billing? Select a button to learn more.

Slide 14: The purpose of FREPP is to ensure that the victim cannot be held responsible for paying the cost of the forensic examination. After FREPP reimburses the healthcare provider for the forensic rape examination, the healthcare provider must accept FREPP's reimbursement rate as payment in full for covered services and cannot bill the victim for the remaining balance. However, if the victim suffered physical injuries due to the crime, the provider may bill the victim for that portion of the services. It is important to note that a victim who has reported to law enforcement can apply to Crime Victim Compensation to cover any injuries that may have occurred as a result of the assault. For more information, see <https://dojmt.gov/victims/crime-victim-compensation>.

Slide 15: The victim may decline to use their private insurance or any other payment sources, including Medicaid or Medicare. If the victim used their insurance to pay for the cost of the exam, but insurance did not cover 100% of the bill, the healthcare provider can charge FREPP for the remaining balance. The balance may not exceed the \$600 maximum allowed.

Slide 16: The following healthcare providers are covered by FREPP:

- Any State of Montana accredited hospital
- A licensed provider in the State of Montana
- A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program

For an eligible reimbursement by FREPP, a forensic rape examination kit **must** be used.

Filing

Slide 17: FREPP was created for sexual assault victims who choose not to report the crime to law enforcement at the time of the sexual assault examination. Therefore, it is unnecessary for a victim to file a law enforcement report or to pursue prosecution to qualify for coverage through FREPP. After a forensic rape examination has been completed, the healthcare provider must put the forensic rape examination kit and any other evidence collected into a box and mail them to FREPP. Kits do not need to be sent "on ice" and should not be sent on a Friday. For tracking purposes, use UPS, Fed Ex, or Certified Mail as the delivery method. You can mail kits to:

FREPP
555 Fuller Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Slide 18: If you are a healthcare provider and need to apply for reimbursement, download this FREPP Claim Form: <https://media.dojmt.gov/wp-content/uploads/Direct-Reimbursement-Claim-Form-1.5.16.pdf>

You must submit the claim form no later than 90 days from the date of the forensic examination, and it must accompany an itemized bill, including an HCFA form with CPT codes and notes. Mail this information to:

FREPP
555 Fuller Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Slide 19: To contact FREPP, call the office at 1-406-444-3653, or visit our website:

<https://dojmt.gov/victims/forensic-rape-examination-payment-program/>

Quiz

Slide 20: Let's test what you've learned! Take the quiz on the following pages to test your knowledge.

Slide 21: Multiple Choice: Some of the covered services in FREPP's definition of a "forensic rape examination" include: (mark all that apply - more than one answer possible)

- A) Complete and customary sexual assault examination
- B) Emergency room/facility charge
- C) Laboratory testing
- D) Physician/nurse examiner charge
- E) Physical injuries related to the crime

Correct Answer: That's correct. The covered costs included in FREPP's definition of a forensic rape examination does not include physical injuries related to the crime and may be charged on the victim's account. However, it is important to note that a victim who has reported to law enforcement can apply to Crime Victim Compensation to cover any physical injuries that may have occurred as a result of the assault. For more information, see <https://dojmt.gov/victims/crime-victim-compensation/>
Click anywhere to continue.

Incorrect Answer: No, that's incorrect. The covered costs included in FREPP's definition of a forensic rape examination does not include physical injuries related to the crime and may be charged on the victim's account. However, it is important to note that a victim who has reported to law enforcement can apply to Crime Victim Compensation to cover any physical injuries that may have occurred as a result of the assault. For more information, see <https://dojmt.gov/victims/crime-victim-compensation/>
Click anywhere to continue.

Slide 22: True or False: A forensic exam must be performed within 5 days of the assault in order to obtain essential evidence.

- True
- False

Correct Answer: That's right! A forensic exam must be performed within 5 days of the assault to obtain essential evidence. Click anywhere to continue.

Incorrect Answer: No, that's wrong. A forensic exam must be performed within 5 days of the assault to obtain essential evidence. Click anywhere to continue.

Slide 23: Yes or No: If a private physician conducted a forensic rape examination in their office and did not use a forensic rape examination kit, can the physician still be reimbursed?

- Yes
- No

Correct Answer: Yes, correct. A forensic rape examination kit must be used to get reimbursed by FREPP. Click anywhere to continue.

Incorrect Answer: No, incorrect. A forensic rape examination kit must be used to get reimbursed by FREPP. Click anywhere to continue.

Slide 24: Multiple Choice: At the time of the forensic rape examination, a victim must do the following to qualify for coverage through FREPP:

- File a law enforcement report
- Pursue prosecution
- None of the above.

Correct Answer: That's right, none of the above. FREPP was created for sexual assault victims who choose not to report the crime to law enforcement or pursue prosecution at the time of the sexual assault examination. Click anywhere to continue.

Incorrect Answer: No, that's incorrect. FREPP was created for sexual assault victims who choose not to report the crime to law enforcement or pursue prosecution at the time of the sexual assault examination. Click anywhere to continue.

Slide 25: Correct or Incorrect: After a forensic rape examination has been completed, the forensic rape examination kit and any other evidence collected must be put into a box and mailed to FREPP.

- Correct
- Incorrect

Correct Answer: That's correct! After a forensic rape examination has been completed, the forensic rape examination kit and any other evidence collected must be put into a box and mailed to FREPP. Click anywhere to continue.

Incorrect Answer: No, that's false. After a forensic rape examination has been completed, the forensic rape examination kit and any other evidence collected must be put into a box and mailed to FREPP. Click anywhere to continue.

Slide 26: Enter your feedback in the box below.

Slide 27: Quiz Results slide.

Slide 28: In this course, you have learned what FREPP is and how it works, how to obtain kits, and how and when to send kits to FREPP. Thank you!

Slide 29: Thank you for completing this course. Select “Close” to exit.