

# HEALTH SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

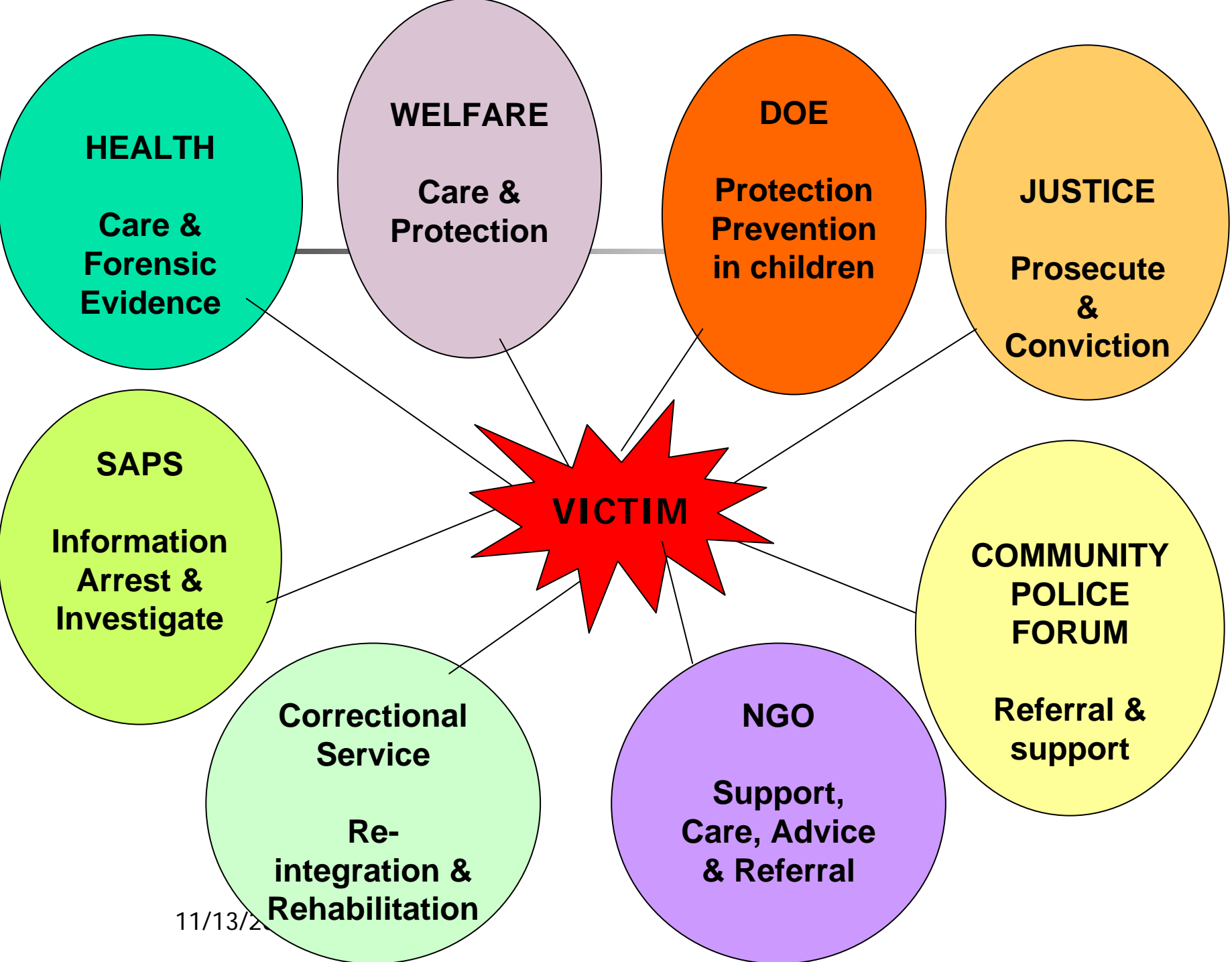
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NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

# BACKGROUND

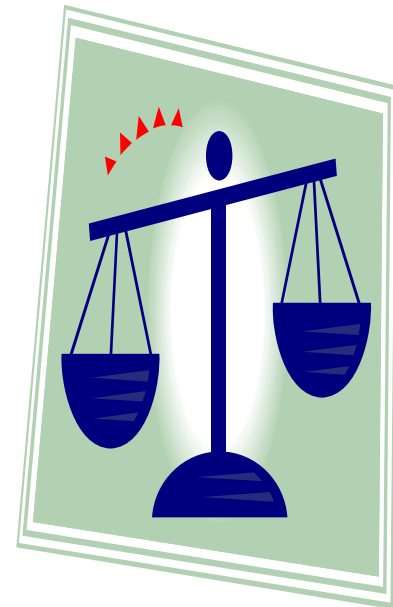
- **Health Care Practitioners are part of the multi-disciplinary team working together in the management of survivors of crime and violence**





# BACKGROUND

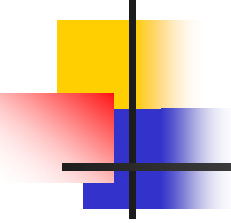
- Evidence given by Health Care Practitioners plays a crucial role in assisting the court in deciding on prosecuting the perpetrator



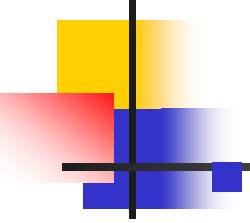
# PATIENTS RIGHTS CHARTER

- 
- A healthy and safe environment
  - Participation in decision-making
  - Access to healthcare
  - Knowledge of one's health insurance/ medical aid scheme
  - Choice of health services
  - Be treated by a named health care provider
  - Confidentiality and privacy
  - Informed consent
  - Refusal of treatment
  - Be referred for second opinion
  - Continuity of care
  - Complaint about health services

# Available services for victims of crime

- 
- Examine complaints of sexual assaults
  - Examination of perpetrators of sexual assaults
  - Examine children for signs of alleged abuse
  - Examine suspects for driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs
  - Examine accused in homicide cases
  - Examine victims for physical assaults

# Available services for victims of crime

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- Visit crime scenes, evidence collection and documentation
  - Age assessments for medico-legal purposes
  - Examine complaints of domestic violence
  - General wound identification to find cause factors

# Right to be treated with dignity, fairness ,respect and privacy

- All victims of crime and violence are examined in either dedicated centres, Thuthuzela or One stop centre.
- Samples are collected from the victim using either crime/rape kit for Forensic testing and chain of custody is maintained





# Right to be treated with dignity, fairness ,respect and privacy

- **Victims are treated with dignity and privacy and timeously**
- **Treatment is such that it prevents secondary victimisation**






# Right to be treated with dignity, fairness ,respect and privacy

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- Mental health rights
  - **Right to assessed properly for mental health status**
  - **Right to be treated with respect and Human dignity**
  - **Right to give concern to treatment**

# Right to offer and receive information

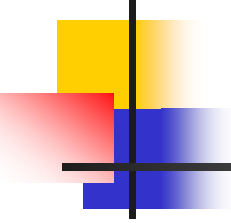
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- Victims are encouraged to offer as much information as possible to the health practitioner
  - Children are given toys in the special children consulting rooms to make them more comfortable to open up
  - Elderly and disabled victims are given special care
  - Mental health: Information about their care, treatment & rehabilitation

# Right to offer and receive information

- **Victims are counseled and advised on issues such:**
  - **Taking blood for HIV testing and results**
  - **PEP**
  - **Referral systems**
  - **Follow-up systems**
  - **Opening a case with SAPS**



# The right to be protected

- 
- All victims that are treated in the centres are also protected from the perpetrator/s, they do not share the same rooms
  - During transportation of Victims, they are transported alone and not together with the perpetrator.
  - Mental ill: Protected from exploitations, abuse and degrading treatment



# Information collection

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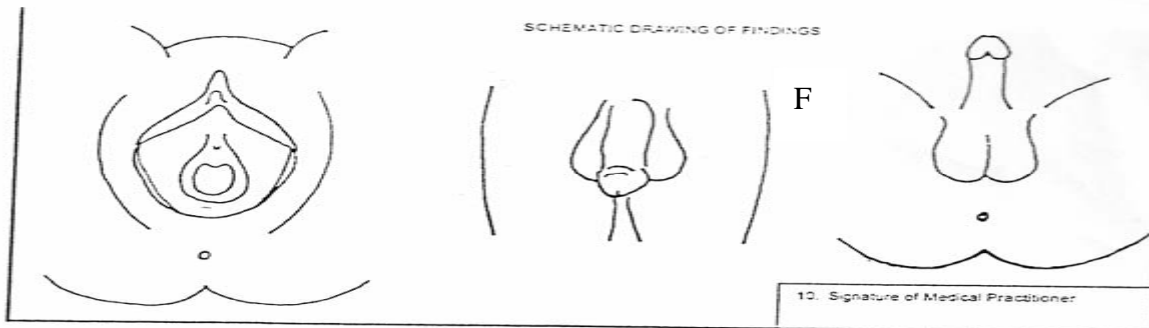
- J88 form is completed by the assessor.

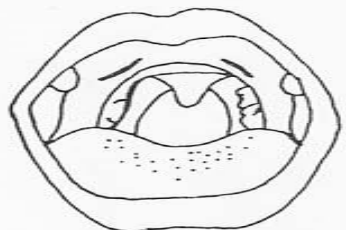
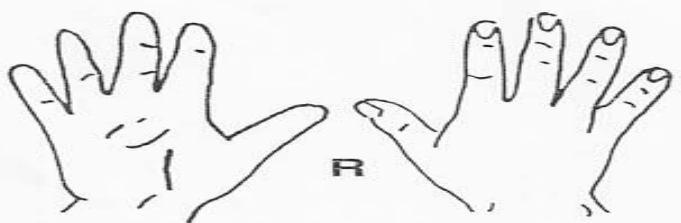
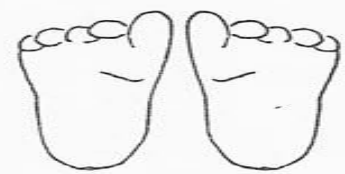
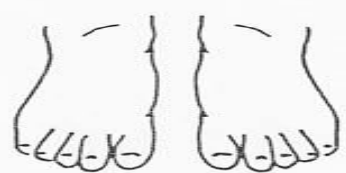
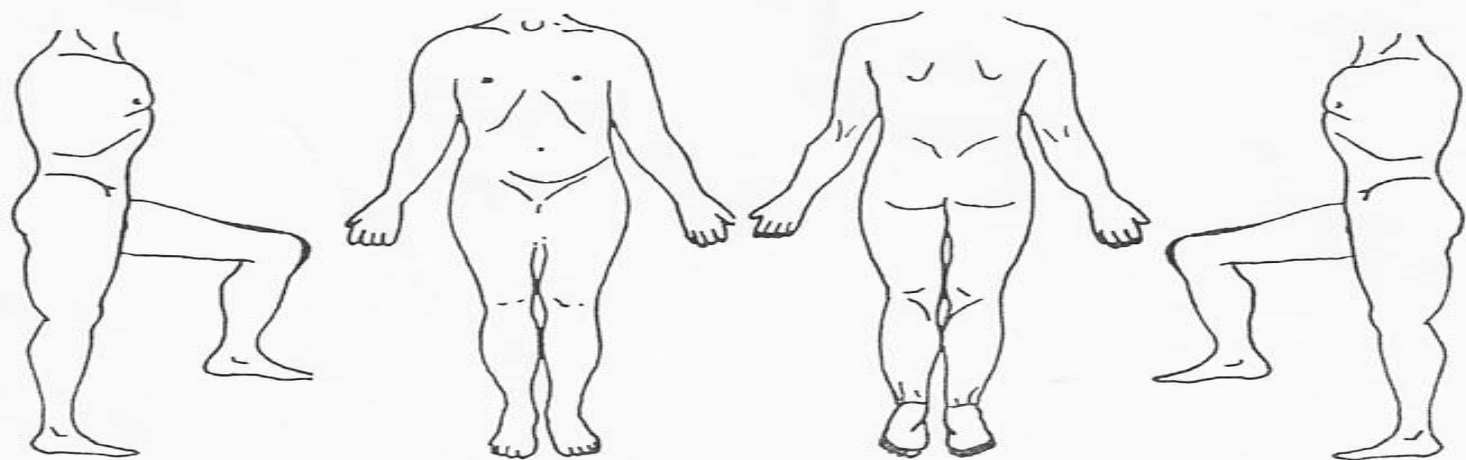
**(J88)**  
**REPORT BY AUTHORISED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER ON THE COMPLETION OF A**  
**MEDICO-LEGAL EXAMINATION**

To be completed in legible handwriting and signed on every page

**A. DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

1. Full Name of person examined Police Station	2. CAS No.	13. Date of birth/apparent age	4. Name of Investigating officer: Name and number [ ] [ ] h [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
5. Name of Medical Practitioner _____ 6. Registered qualifications _____ 7. Phone number _____ 8. Fax number _____ 9. Place of examination _____			10. Physical Practice address or stamp
12. Sex                      M                      F			





Signature of medical practitioner





# Forensic Chemistry laboratories

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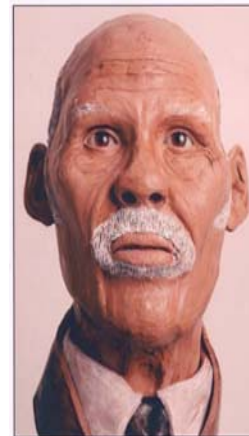
- Samples are tested depending on what the test is for
- Results are compiled for the health practitioner to give evidence in Court as a witness.
- Access to the laboratories is restricted to avoid doctoring of results by any of the parties (Protection of victims)



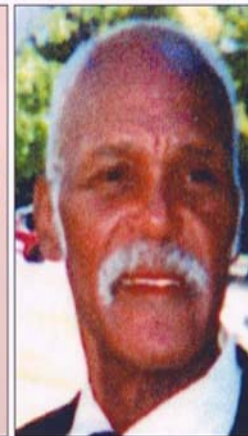
11/13/2007

# Right to assistance

- Victims are given opportunities to ask for assistance where relevant
- Victims with special needs are accommodated e.g. Elderly; Disabled and Children



WCME Case #05-08061



JIMMY ADAMS 1942 to 2003

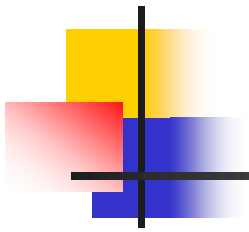


# CONCLUSION



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- Health care facilities are user friendly for all victims
- Health Care Practitioners are trained on CFM services
- More CFM facilities are to be established to improve accessibility to the service



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THANK YOU