



## **WHAT IS A FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAM?**

A forensic medical exam is a head to toe exam done on your child that looks for any type of injury or trauma and it also looks to collect evidence if applicable. In addition to the examination, the nurse gathers a medical history and reviews such things as vaccinations, dental visits, pains or any concerns that the child may have.

The forensic medical examination is a non-invasive exam for a pre-pubescent girl. This exam is not intrusive and is not similar to an OB/GYN exam.

The child is in a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere and is allowed to be in control of what happens to him/her at all times. If at any time the child becomes uncomfortable or does not want to participate any further then the exam stops.

## **WHY SHOULD MY CHILD HAVE A MEDICAL EXAM?**

The medical exam identifies any trauma or injuries that the child might have sustained if there was any type of assault. The medical exam also allows for the collection of any evidence that may be present. This may be very important in the future for identification purposes or in court.

Most importantly, a medical exam as well as talking with our nurses can help to reassure a child that he/she are all right. This is equally as important to the parents/guardians as well.

**Feel free to contact The Sanilac County Child Advocacy Center Program Coordinator with any questions or concerns:**

**Stephanie MacMillan, Program Coordinator**  
**(810) 648-4172 Option #2 and then Option #2**  
**[macmillans@sanilachealth.com](mailto:macmillans@sanilachealth.com)**