

Rights when contacting the service

- You have the right to be treated with respect and sensitivity
- The right to confidentiality and privacy
- Right to be informed about and make choices about proceeding with legal action
- Right to be believed
- Right to be in a safe counselling environment
- Right to be accompanied by a support person of your choice
- The right to make a complaint to the Health Care Complaints Commission
- The right to have access to an Interpreter Service and an Aboriginal Health Liason Officer if required

For Counselling and Information you can contact a Sexual Assault Counsellor at:



If you live outside these areas, please contact your nearest Health Service and ask to arrange an appointment with a Sexual Assault Counsellor.

This service is available to males, females and non-offending family members/carers of those affected by the sexual assault.

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people NSW Health employees have the responsibility to report children at risk of harm to the Department of Community Services.



Health
Western NSW
Local Health District

Adult Sexual Assault

If you have been sexually assaulted or are in crisis you can contact a 24hr service through:

Bathurst Hospital: **02 6330 5311**
Bourke Hospital: **02 6870 8888**
Dubbo Hospital: **02 6809 6809**
Orange Hospital: **02 6369 3000**

You are able to receive medical care and counselling, and information.
This service is free and confidential.

The aim for this service is to provide a safe environment for adult victims of sexual assault to discuss the effects of the assault

- The victim of the assault is never to blame
- Sexual assault is a serious crime and includes actual assaults, attempted assaults and threats to assault
- Women and men are often sexually assaulted by someone they know
- Sexual assault is a crime where the offender uses power, force or subtle threat to take control of and assault another persons body, mind and emotions

The service can provide:

This service provides support, counselling, and information to men & women who have been sexually assaulted recently or in the past.

This service provides a 24hr crisis service and ongoing counselling and support

- Counselling for adults, children, young people and carers
- Support for non-offending family members
- Group work for survivors of sexual assault
- Community education
- Consultation with agencies, and other service providers regarding sexual assault
- Court preparation and court support
- Facilitation and access to appropriate health care

Some Myths about sexual assault

There are many myths about sexual assault that influence the way a person feels, and how those around them react after sexual assault.

“People attract rape by the way they dress and behave”

Nobody asks to be hurt or degraded. Rape is the responsibility of the perpetrator not the victim.

“Men are the perpetrators of sexual assault not the victims”

Although most perpetrators are men, men can also be victims.

“Rapes are committed in dark alleys by a stranger”

Most rapes occur at home. Often the offender is a relative, friend, acquaintance or neighbour.

One of the most helpful things you can do is talk to someone about what happened and how you feel. The counsellors are specially trained to provide you with support & information.