

**QUINTE HEALTH CARE CORPORATION
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE
PROGRAM (DVSARP)**

Non-Emergency Services:

Cavell Building 245 Dundas Street – Suite 224 Belleville, ON K8N 5A9	Phone: 613-969-7400 ext 2095 Fax: 613-969-0579
Email:	Website: www.dvsarp.ca

Emergency Services:

Quinte Health Care Belleville General 265 Dundas Street East Belleville, ON K8N 5A9	Phone: 613- 969-7400
Quinte Health Care North Hastings 1-H Manor Lane P.O. Box 157 Bancroft, ON K0L 1C0	Phone: 613- 332-2825
Quinte Health Care Prince Edward County Memorial 403 Main Street East P.O. Box 1900 Picton, ON K0K 2T0	Phone: 613- 476-1008
Quinte Health Care Trenton Memorial 242 King Street Trenton, ON K8V 5S6	Phone: 613 392-2540

Introduction

The **Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Response Program (DVSARP)** is provided by Quinte Healthcare Corporation to Hastings and Prince Edward counties as one of thirty four hospital based programs. The emergency service is funded by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and community counseling services is funded by other Ministries. The corporate office is located at Quinte Healthcare - Belleville General within the service portfolio of Emergency Services.

The program provides emergency forensic and health care to victims or survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence as well as health care, counseling services, and education to professionals and public awareness on related issues.

A twenty-four (24) hour emergency response team of on-call Registered nurses is available to provide support to individuals who have been sexually assaulted or experienced domestic violence within the prior seventy two (72) hours. The “DVSARP” nurses work in cooperation with the staff of the Emergency Departments at each of the four sites in Belleville General, North Hastings, Prince Edward County Memorial and Trenton Memorial.

Building on the scope of Registered nurses, the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program provides the nurses with the additional education to enable independent involvement when there is no medical attention required that would involve a physician.

Overview of Specific Procedures and Services

ADULT SERVICES

The “DVSARP” provides comprehensive care to persons who have experienced a recent sexual assault defined as any sexual activity with another person without consent occurring within the previous 72 hours. The mandate also includes victims/survivors of domestic violence. This is defined as the abuse of a person who is known in an intimate or familial way and includes physical, psychological, sexual and/ or financial abuse.

The mandate of the program addresses the medical, emotional, social, forensic and/or legal needs of the clients. Services include but may not be limited to:

- Crisis counseling
- Collection of forensic evidence (Sexual Assault Evidence Kit)
- Documentation of assault history and photography of injuries
- Advocacy for individuals and communities
- Referrals to appropriate community agencies for counseling and court support
- Safety Planning and risk assessment
- Education and community consultation
- Provision of Prophylactic medication for the prevention of sexually-transmitted infections and pregnancy.

PEDIATRIC SERVICES

The current program mandate has been expanded in 2003 to provide enhanced pediatric services for children experiencing sexual assault. The nurses, pediatricians and counselors are provided with additional medical/forensic and counseling training specific to the pediatric population to provide a comprehensive continuum of care for children of assault. In acute cases, the child is treated in the emergency department under the care of the nurse and physician and the “DVSARP” team. When the incident occurs outside of the acute phase, a scheduled appointment during office hours will be arranged to provide care by the follow-up nurse and pediatrician. As required, psychosocial evaluation and intervention is provided to the children and/or families. The care providers work closely with the police, judicial

system, child welfare authorities and community mental health services to ensure an integrated response.

Services include but may not be limited to:

- 24-hour emergency medical care
- Forensic documentation
- Crisis counseling
- Safety planning and risk assessment for children and adolescents
- Education and support for children and families

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROCEDURE

- Triage assessment in the Emergency Department including clinical assessment, forensic evidence, individual advocacy, referrals/options, safety planning and documentation.
- Medical assessment and examination, treatment and forensic examination will be provided by the attending physician.
- Specialized nurse in the “DVSARP” response team will attend the individual at the emergency department.
- Collection of the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit is at the discretion and consent of the individual.
- Referral will be made upon consent to the Sexual Assault Centre for Quinte & District and/or the Three Oaks Foundation for safe housing.
- Medical and/or forensic information is released to police or any external sources only within the parameters of provincial legislation and Quinte Healthcare Policy.
- Language and ASL Interpretive services can be provided.
- Individuals with a disability and/or limitations will be referred to the appropriate community resource for assistance.

Accessibility

The service is available 24 hours per day seven days per week through one of the four emergency departments at Quinte Healthcare Corporation. The full accessibility plan for QHC is available on the website at www.qhc.on.ca.

Accountability

The Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Response Program is funded by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care under the direction of Quinte Health care Corporation.

Complaints or concerns regarding the services of DVSARP should be direct to Marilyn Pape, Manager at QHC Belleville Emergency by contacting 613 -969 -7400 Concerns or complaints in writing may be forwarded to Joan Dorland Risk Management Coordinator, Quinte Healthcare, 265 Dundas Street East, Belleville, Ontario K8N 5A9

A representative from DV/SARP attends the Quinte Coordinating Committee against Violence and the Domestic Violence Court Advisory Committee. Collaborative service agreements are in place with a number of community partners such as the Sexual Assault Centre for Quinte & District, the Southeast Community Care Access Centre, and the Children's Aid Society.