



Ghana Sexual Violence Information

This guide purpose is to provide information on services, and resources available at the country level to support sexual violence survivors and to help focal points complete the country-specific information template to respond to sexual violence. By adding a guide dedicated to responding to sexual violence for each country, Crossroads reinforces its commitment to a survivor-centered approach by giving survivors control of the decision-making process following an incident of sexual violence.

Please contact your Volunteer Support Advisor, or someone you trust at Crossroads International to support you. We are here to offer you the accompaniment and support you need.

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Steps to take

STEPS	WHAT? WHERE? HOW?
1	Reaching out to the Country Manager and VSA who will help you on what next steps to take. Review and adhere to safety measures put in place by Crossroads. Call Crossroads emergency line that is open 24 Hours +233599904410 for help
2	Do not wash or take off any clothes, less you destroy evidence. Immediately go to the nearest police station to report incident. Get a police medical form to fill from the police station Use the filled form to visit a health facility. This gives the medical authority to examine and write an incident report This form is mandatory and will cost GHS 200.00 The VSA will write an incident report for submission to Management.
3	e.i Step 2 mandatory to move on to step 3 Go to a medical or health facility of your choice to report the incident. Present the filled police report /form to the medical doctor responsible for you. This letter authorizes him to examine your body and write a report about findings.

Send back medical report to the police station, this provides documented evidence of the trauma caused to the survivor's body which letter can be use by the police or the lawyer to pursue for justice. Seek psychosocial counselling at the health centre or if trauma or you could be referred to a higher facility if trauma is severe.

Medical services

Service	Detail (what tests or material is available)	Cost
1) A rape kit	Screening of the victim	GHS 200.00
2) Blood work	Sexually transmitted infections (STIs): Syphilis, gonorrhea, Hepatitis A, B or C Free at Government owned poly clinics and hospitals. Lancet and other private labs could vary	GHS 0.00 GHS 40.00 each
	HIV: HIV 1 and 2 Free at Government owned Poly Clinics and Hospitals Lancet and Private facilities charge variably	GHS 0.00 GHS 80.00
	Others: Human Peplomer virus, Pregnancy, COVID Costs vary per clinic, may top up at Government Facility	GHS 30.00
3) Medications	PLAN B (emergency contraceptive): Postinor tablets Lydia Tablets Secure Tablets Antiretroviral drugs are free at government hospitals. It is also taking a long process to obtain it. Some countries also do not have any form of Plan B because family planning is taboo so this is one more medication that people can travel with to be on the safe side.	GHS 7.00 GHS 13.00 GHS 4.00
	Antibiotics : Broad Spectrum antibiotics to treat all infection Amoxicilline/Amoxyclav/Clavulin Gentamycine Clindamycine This can be administered, orally or Intravenous depending on the doctor's discretion	This depends on the doctor's discretion and it would cost above GHS 40.00
	Post-exposure Prophylaxis for HIV: HIV ARV's are used as prophylaxis to treat newly contracted HIV Virus. It can also act as a pill to terminate unwanted pregnancies. Some organizations have their staff travel with one dose of post-exposure medication for HIV because the first tablet must be taken within 48 hours of exposure and often, it is not possible to be evacuated that quickly or to locate the medication in country that fast. Please let Crossroads know if it is the case Antiretrovirals drugs, emergency contraceptive taken with 72 hours after the incident	At no cost at Government facilities. At a cost in private facilities.
	Others: Some time for minor surgeries and pain killers in case of severe trauma.	

4) Ultrasound (depending on the extent of injuries and type of trauma)	This detects pregnancy, vaginal tear or trauma, and assess the level of damage	GHS 50.00
5) Others	Minor surgery for the vagina in case of severe trauma and the cost could vary from one clinic to another	GHS 500.00

You should also use this section to highlight important information such as:

What hospitals can administer rape kits	Most of the Government hospitals handle these
What will the hospital do with your information once you have given your statement and completed the tests?	The hospital uses the police report as an authority letter to grant the medical team access to examine the patient and treat them
What is the age of consent?	16 years
Other? Rape victims usually go through the normal emergency process	<p>This includes registration, vitals taken, file, folder created during the time the doctor attends to the victim. Specialist such as Gynaecologist sees the victim. This could vary from one facility to another.</p> <p>A detailed history is taken including timelines, followed by general and specific examination, pictures are taken where necessary and various investigations requested.</p> <p>Cost of investigations and prescriptions vary from one facility to another. These may not be covered by health insurance.</p>

Contact information for local survivor support NGOs

NGO name	Address	Contact Information	Services provided
WILDAF	H/N88/C6 Opposite Manna Mission Hospital, Teshi-Nungua Accra	+233302727897 +233203895226 +233556233474 +233202627087 https://Wildaf_ghana.org/wildaf-support/	Legal Counsel, Advocacy, Survivor's support
PROLINK	Spintex Highway East Airport Info@prolinkgh.org	+233302816963 Info@prolinkgh.org	Advocacy, survivor's support
HARC	Osu Ako Adjei, Accra	+2335426214018	Legal Counsel, Advocacy, Survivor's support

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL	63 Olympics St, Accra	+233302220814	Advocacy
POS FOUNDATION	Yogaga Street, Accra	+233244175879	Legal Counsel, Advocacy, Survivor Support
NORSAAC	Shishegu Residential Area, Nyankpala Road, Sagnerigu District Assembly Junction - Tamale	+233501303003 Info@norsaac.org/norsaac@yahoo.com	Advocacy, survivor's support
FIDA	Madina Estate, Abttoir road, Accra	+233545089092	Legal Counsel

Legal law enforcement/response

Explain clearly what the following terms mean in the legal context of the country in question:

Age of consent	The Age of Consent in Ghana is 16 years old. It is the minimum age at which an individual is considered legally old enough to consent to participation in sexual activity. Individuals aged 15 or younger in Ghana are not legally able to consent to sexual activity, and such activity may result in prosecution for statutory rape or the equivalent local law. Ghana statutory rape law is violated when an individual has consensual sexual contact with a person under age 16.
Consent	Consent is when a person gives permission or agrees for a particular action to take place or something to happen.
Domestic violence	there may be different levels of legal protection depending on whether sexual violence occurs within or outside of marriage. Please do make the distinction if needed Domestic Violence is an act, or threat of an act, that causes physical, psychological/emotional, economical and sexual pain or injury as well as intimidation, isolation and coercion in an intimate relationship. The Domestic Violence Act provides protection from domestic violence particularly for women and children and for connected persons (Constitution (1996) Threats or harm under this Act constitute physical abuse, sexual abuse, economic abuse, emotional, verbal, or psychological abuse. Domestic relationship under this Act means a family relationship where the complainant is or has been married to, lives with or engaged to, parent of, household of, co-tenant of, or shares a child with the respondent. Perpetrators are to be arrested, prosecuted, and jailed if found guilty of a domestic violence crime.
Intimate partner violence	Intimate Partner Violence is an act of behaviour by a current or former intimate partner that causes physical, sexual, or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours.
Sexual harassment	Sexual Harassment is sexually making life unpleasant and unbearable for another person. This includes acts such as text mgs, internet – sending nude pic etc., unwilling body touching.

Sexual Assault	Sexual Assault is an act in which one intentionally making sexually touches another person without that person's consent or physically forcing a person to engage in a sexual act against their will.
Sexual Violence	Section 103 of the Criminal Offences Act deals with indecent assault. A person commits this criminal offense if without the consent of the other person that person (a) forcibly makes a sexual bodily contact with the other person or (b) sexually violates the body of another person.
Rape	Rape is the carnal knowledge of a female of not less than 16years without her consent or when a man sexually penetrates a woman above the age of 16 years without her consent. The offense of rape in Ghana is now a first-degree felony carrying sentences of not less than five years and not more than twenty-five years. Rape is Gender specific in Ghana. A man cannot be raped, not even by his fellow man
Defilement	Defilement is the natural or unnatural carnal knowledge of a child under 16 years / or having sexual encounter with either a girl or boy under age 16 years by either a man or woman /or when a child (boy or girl) who is less than 16years is sexually abused.
Incest	Incest is having sexual encounter with a person who is a blood relation such as siblings, parents, Uncles and cousins.