

Support for healthcare staff

Medical professionals can also call the Examination Center for support.

- Advice and guidance will be provided over the phone.
- Alternatively, one of the Examination Center's doctors can go to the hospital or clinic concerned – depending on the case – at short notice. With the consent of the individual affected, they will work alongside healthcare staff on site to document and photograph the person's injuries and, particularly in cases of sexual offences, carry out the coordinated collection of forensic evidence.

A telephone consultation must take place prior to any examination.

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Email: ugb@meduniwien.ac.at
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Examination Center for Victims of Violence
Zimmermannplatz 1 (entrance: Zimmermannngasse 14)
1090 Vienna

The Examination Center for Victims of Violence is open to all victims of violence or abuse. It also supports healthcare specialists. The project is funded by the Austrian federal government.

 Federal Ministry
Women, Science
and Research
Republic of Austria

 Federal Ministry
Labour, Social Affairs, Health,
Care and Consumer Protection
Republic of Austria

 Federal Ministry
Interior
Republic of Austria

 Federal Ministry
Justice
Republic of Austria



MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
OF VIENNA

Examination Center for Victims of Violence (victim support centre)

Documenting injuries and collecting
forensic evidence for victims of violence
and abuse

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The Examination Center for Victims of Violence is part of the Medical University of Vienna Center for Forensic Medicine. It offers a range of services:

- Court-ready documentation of injuries, including photos
 - In cases of family/intimate-partner violence or abuse (domestic violence), sexual assault, or any other form of abuse of children or adults
- Documentation can be used in court if the case is reported to the police
- Collecting forensic evidence (for example, in the case of sexual offences)
- Testing blood and urine samples (in suspected cases of spiking)
- Information and advice on victim support facilities and reporting an assault to the police

Contacting the Examination Center by phone

A telephone consultation must take place prior to any examination.

People affected by violence, their family members or trusted persons, victim support services, investigative authorities and, in particular, physicians or other medical professionals can contact the Examination Center.

Telephone: +43 (0)1 40160-35700

Email: ugb@meduniwien.ac.at

Call us on +43 (0)1 40160-35700

We will discuss the next steps together.

- Documenting injuries and collecting forensic evidence
- Examinations are free of charge
- No e-card required

Important

- The doctors at the Examination Center do not provide treatment for injuries.
- People with injuries requiring medical treatment receive support by telephone, and the examination then takes place – by prior arrangement – at a hospital.
- No prior report to the authorities is required for an examination.
- Forensic evidence and test results are kept for at least 10 years.
- The Examination Center supports people of all ages and genders who have suffered violence or abuse.

Arranging an examination

During the initial call, our specially trained doctors will determine how urgent the situation is and arrange a location where the examination can take place.

The examination is usually performed at a hospital if there are any injuries requiring treatment, if the case involves a reported sexual offence, or if the victim is a child. One of the Examination Center's doctors will be there during the examination to provide support.

If no injuries requiring medical treatment are identified and the case does not involve a sexual offence, the examination can be carried out on the Examination Center's premises.

What the examination involves

With the victim's consent, the following steps are taken:

- Complete clinical documentation of both recent and older injuries conducted to the highest professional standards
- A photographic record of the injuries
- Where appropriate, collection of forensic evidence (for example in cases of sexual offences), or of blood and urine samples (in situations where spiking is suspected).

All doctors are bound by a duty of medical confidentiality. The Examination Center is completely impartial and independent, no matter whether the case goes to court or the decision is taken to involve the police.

In cases involving injuries that must be reported, the statutory requirements apply in the same way as they would during treatment at a medical practice or hospital.