



Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program



WHAT IS A MA SANE?

MA Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) are clinicians who have received specialized training and certification by the MA Department of Public Health to care for sexual assault patients. At no cost to patients, they provide medical forensic examinations in an ED, ICU or OR at designated hospitals or virtually via the Program's TeleSANE Center. MA SANE care is available whether or not a patient chooses to report their assault to law enforcement.

MA SANEs provide:

- Expert, trauma-informed forensic nursing care
- 1:1 compassionate care to victims of sexual assault
- Comprehensive forensic examinations and evidence collection within 5 days of an assault
- A multidisciplinary collaborative approach to patient care
- Options for testing and medications to help prevent assault-related pregnancy and Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Expert or fact witness court testimony

TeleSANEs provide:

- Expert clinical guidance, in real-time, using secure, encrypted Telehealth technology for clinicians caring for sexual assault patients 12 years and older, at designated locations across the state.

Pediatric SANE Program provides:

- Comprehensive services to children who experience both acute and chronic sexual abuse
- Care in 10 of the state's 12 Children's Advocacy Centers, and a pediatric emergency response at Lawrence General Hospital, Lowell General Hospital, Cape Cod Hospital, and Falmouth Hospital.
- Evidence Collection based on the principles of "Do No Harm".

DURING COVID-19 FY 2021: The SANE Program provided direct Services to 1,950 patients of all ages, including 966 children and 984 adults and adolescents.

For additional information about the Massachusetts SANE Program: <https://www.mass.gov/dph/sane>

Designated MA SANE Sites

All emergency rooms can treat sexual assault patients. The MDPHSANE program currently provides in-person or TeleSANE* services to the medical facilities listed below.

Western Sites (SANE Region 1)

- Athol Hospital*
- Baystate Franklin Medical Center*
- Baystate Medical Center
- Baystate Wing Memorial Hospital
- Berkshire Medical Center
- Cooley Dickinson Hospital
- Mercy Medical Center
- UMass Amherst Health Services

Central Massachusetts (SANE Region 2)

- Harrington Memorial Hospital
- Milford Regional Medical Center
- St. Vincent's Hospital
- UMass Memorial Campus
- UMass University Campus

Northeast (SANE Region 3)

- Lawrence General Hospital
- Lowell General Hospital (Main & Saint's Campus)
- North Shore Medical Center(Salem)*
- Beverly Hospital*

Greater Boston/Metro Area (SANE Region 4)

- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Boston Children's Hospital
- Boston Medical Center
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Cambridge Hospital (Cambridge Health Alliance)
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- MetroWest Medical Center *
- Newton Wellesley Hospital

Southeastern Massachusetts (SANE Region 5)

- Beth Israel Deaconess- Plymouth
- Brockton Hospital
- Charlton Memorial Hospital
- Good Samaritan Medical Center*
- Morton Medical Center
- Saint Anne's Hospital *
- St. Luke's Hospital
- South Shore Hospital
- Sturdy Memorial Hospital*
- Tobey Hospital

Cape Cod and The Islands (SANE Region 6)

- Cape Cod Hospital
- Falmouth Hospital
- Nantucket Cottage Hospital*
- Martha Vinyard Hospital*