



**Resolution on REIMBURSEMENT OF EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT COPAYMENT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT AFTER
CARE TO STUDENTS OF DUKE UNIVERSITY
(Resolution 2015-02)**

**Graduate and Professional Student Council, General Assembly
In cooperation with the Duke Student Government**

Whereas students in need of sexual assault aftercare deserve to be provided with the highest standard of comprehensive care and should in all instances be offered and provided, if consistent with the wishes of the student, a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (“SANE”) exam allowing for the collection of anonymous forensic evidence;

Whereas the Duke Student Health Center is not able to provide comprehensive aftercare for victims of sexual assault which includes SANE exam administration and treatment of other medical concerns resulting from a sexual assault, as they are neither approved to administer nor equipped to perform the SANE exam;

Whereas the Duke Student Health Center is not open for students to present for services during the times when victims are most likely to need emergency services, namely outside of normal business hours;

Whereas students who receive care at Student Health prior to being referred for a SANE exam will have compromised forensic evidence collection quality due to the need to swab genital areas during STD/STI testing and physical examination at Student Health;

Whereas all students requiring aftercare for sexual assault must, unless discussed and declined by the student, therefore seek services at a local Emergency Department equipped to administer the SANE exam and collect forensic evidence in accordance with state policies;

Whereas the minimum co-payment required for students with University-provided health insurance is \$150 for any Emergency Department visit regardless of reason for visit;

Whereas the co-payment required for students with non-University sponsored health insurance may greatly exceed \$150 for Emergency Department visits;

Whereas the minimum payments represents a significant barrier to care for undergraduate, graduate and professional students alike;

Whereas a majority of students will have additional medical costs associated with prescriptions or treatment of injuries above the required co-payment when receiving services associated with a sexual assault;

Whereas the state sponsored program for reimbursement of medical fees accrued in association with a sexual assault, the North Carolina Crime Victims Compensation Program, is currently the only resource for reimbursement for student victims of sexual assault; and

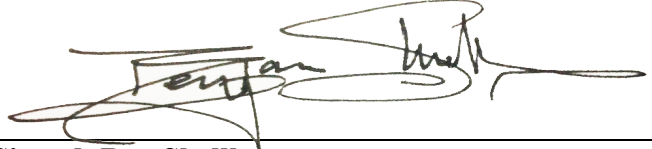
Whereas the North Carolina Crime Victims Compensation Program is an inappropriate resource for Duke students to seek reimbursement of medical bills associated with sexual assault aftercare because a) state sponsored programs largely do not provide reimbursement for injuries associated with a sexual assault and do not reimburse copayments not covered by insurance as they only pay benefits directly to the service provider and not costs incurred, b) sponsored programs may require students to disclose confidential health status information to parents or others capable of assisting with initial payment, c) sponsored programs may require a greater level of individual financial need than students will be able to demonstrate and d) the requirement to seek assistance outside of the University may constitute a significant burden for students required to live on campus and without means of transport to report to sponsored program offices in Raleigh if this was deemed necessary; therefore be it:

Resolved, that Duke University ensures that:

1. All students presenting within 120 hours (5 days) of a sexual assault to Duke Student Health, the Women's Center, or CAPS should be explicitly informed of their right to receive the highest standard of comprehensive care including SANE examination as is only available at the Duke University Hospital emergency department.
2. Funds of a sufficient quantity are set aside each budget year to reimburse at least the cost of co-payment for a student presenting to local emergency departments for sexual assault aftercare and SANE. This amount should be a minimum of \$12,000 per year to accommodate a goal that all victims reporting assault receive a SANE exam and are reimbursed the cost of this exam.
3. Students may submit documentation of an Emergency Department visit in the form of an After Visit Summary or other Emergency Department documentation to a confidential campus provider (Women's Center or CAPS) for direct reimbursement of SANE exam associated medical costs with no other requirement for disclosure to campus entities.

4. All Duke students who are victims of sexual assault and present to Women's Center, CAPS, or Student Health are informed of their right to receive a SANE, the locations where these services are provided, and informed of their right to reimbursement for examination through the Duke sponsored program.

Signed,



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