

part 2

2.1. introduction to part 2

Part Two presents ten case studies, each of which contain educational objectives and activities aimed at illustrating management of complex issues arising from the wide range of possible presentations of sexual assault incidences.

In combination with the background material in Part One of this module, Part Two will equip you in:

- recognising behavioural cues that may indicate an adult patient has experienced recent or historical sexual assault,
- dealing sensitively and appropriately with disclosure of sexual assault,
- documenting disclosure by a sexual assault victim,
- prescribing emergency contraception,
- prescribing STI prophylaxis,
- performing a forensic examination in a range of scenarios,
- collecting and managing forensic specimens,
- forensic report documentation,
- communicating and dealing with police,
- identifying a range of injuries and injury patterns common to acute sexual assaults, *and*
- describing autopsy procedures for cases involving sexual assault and homicide.

You will also gain an understanding of:

- the risk of sexually transmitted infection in sexual assault,
- domestic violence,
- employment conditions of sex workers,
- common drugs used in drug and alcohol facilitated sexual assault,
- mandatory reporting requirements in your jurisdiction,
- sequelae of childhood sexual abuse,
- the significance of informed consent,
- situations where it is not possible to gain a victim's consent and the steps to gaining consent for an unconscious person,
- the term 'chain of evidence',
- features of a standard sexual assault protocol booklet,
- issues associated with professional abuse of patients,
- the role of medical boards in cases of sexual abuse, *and*
- the impact professional abuse can have on patients.

The cases presented are composite scenarios based on elements of actual incidences of sexual assault. It is important to note that these cases are not necessarily representative of all sexual assault, or of the patients you will encounter. The cases illustrate possible scenarios and the complexity of issues facing sexual assault victims. They provide you with an opportunity to apply the learning objectives listed above in the context of what you have already learned in Part One of this module.

As you work through these case studies you will build a range of skills. When you have completed the case studies you may find it useful to return to the early case studies and revisit your answers to questions in the activities to gauge your progress.

Refer back to the first four chapters as you work through Part Two to remind yourself of what is known about the nature, incidence and prevalence of sexual assault; of the psychosocial context in which sexual assault is perpetrated; of supports you can offer someone who is sexually assaulted; and of care for yourself as you work through the case studies.

