

Forensic Nursing Service FACT Sheet

WHAT is Forensic Nursing?

Forensic Nursing is the global health care response to crime, violence and trauma.

WHERE is Forensic Nursing in Fraser Health?

Fraser Health's Forensic Nursing Service (FNS) is a regional program with care provided in the Emergency Departments at Surrey Memorial Hospital and Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre.

WHO are our patients?

Our patients are 2 years and older, any gender, and have experienced violence, including:

- Child Abuse, Assault Neglect, and Maltreatment
- Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault
- Domestic Violence, Interpersonal Violence, Relational Violence
- Human Trafficking, Exploitation, Extortion

We can provide services for the patient regardless of whether they are considered to be the victim or perpetrator by law enforcement.

Patient's can present for an examination within 7 days of the event

WHO are we?

Registered nurses from all backgrounds in health care with a special interest in social justice, health equity and human rights advocacy. Forensic Nurse Examiners (FNEs) have specialized education and are trained to work in partnership with police, community services, lawyers, social workers and other health, social, and legal service providers.

WHERE?

Patients may be referred from any hospital across Fraser Health. A referral is initiated in the emergency department and patients are provided with support to travel to the nearest site where FNS is available. Forensic Nurse Examiners are trauma-informed and ensure safety, options, and choices are provided in a calm and non-judgmental atmosphere. Our approach is trauma and violence-informed and patient directed.

WHEN?

24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

Onsite nurses available from 7am – 11pm, 7 days a week at both locations

On-call nurses overnight 11pm – 7am

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Emergency Department
32900 Marshall Road
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