

Welcome to the IAFN SAFE-TA Webinar: SART CASE Review



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SAFETA Webinar Series



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SART Peer Review

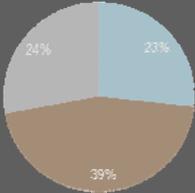
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Objectives

- ⇒ Distinguish between SANE and SART peer review
- ⇒ Identify benefits of SART peer review
- ⇒ Identify barriers to SART peer review
- ⇒ Describe the SART peer review process

National SART Needs Assessment

Case Review



Case Review Type	Percentage
Regular Case Review	24%
As Issues arise	33%
Do NOT Review	23%

NSVRC, National SART Needs Assessment Survey, 2006

SANE vs. SART Peer Review

- ⇒ SANE peer review is a relatively common practice today following the nursing quality assurance/medical model
 - Expert reviewer
 - Focus on SANE documentation
- ⇒ SART peer review requires SART collaboration
 - Emphasis on process/collaboration to achieve outcome
 - Team=reviewers

What is a SART Peer Review?

For our purpose:

“SART peer review is the SART/ team review of the process and outcome of a sexual assault case from the initial report until the case is prosecuted or closed (or current status if open)”

Benefits of SART Peer Review

- ⇒ The Goal of a SART peer review is
 - To review immediate response in individual cases in order to improve overall team performance
 - To maintain and enhance the quality of the SART

* From A National Protocol For Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations of Adults and Adolescents : Creation of Sexual Assault Response Teams

Some baseline thoughts

- ⇒ Assure protection of patient identity/safety during case review
- ⇒ Have policies in place to guide the review process (things like note taking, confidentiality agreements within the SART)
- ⇒ Consent from the victim to have their information used in the process

Benefits of SART Peer Review

- ⇒ Identify what makes the system response effective
- ⇒ Identify local barriers to successful case prosecution/ enhanced victim care
- ⇒ Better understand roles and role boundaries
- ⇒ Continually improve system response
- ⇒ Share expertise with other communities

SANE-SART Evidence-based Practice

“The practice of making clinical and programmatic decisions for program operation and development based upon a careful identification, evaluation, and review of the most relevant information available”

Barriers to SART Peer Review

- ⇒ Lack of collaborative SART
- ⇒ Lack of trust / understanding between disciplines
- ⇒ Peer review / case audit process not norm with all discipline
- ⇒ Fear judgment / accountability
- ⇒ Time commitment
- ⇒ Lack guide/tools/standards

Where to Start?

- ⇒ Process
 - How we responded (eg SANE paged once victim at the hospital vs. en-route)
- ⇒ Outcome
 - The result of what we did

How to Pick a Case

- ⇒ Start with a "successful" case
- ⇒ Pick a case that is closed/ has been to court
- ⇒ Start with a case of SART/community interest
 - High profile
 - Serial

How to Present the Case

- ⇒ Start by emphasizing positives
- ⇒ May do peer review at monthly/bimonthly SART meetings
 - SART leader organizes
 - Rotate case recommendation for review
- ⇒ May rotate leadership
 - Leader picks case
 - Give adequate notice of case to prepare

How to Present the Case

- Review the case from the initial report to case conclusion
- ⇒ Ask each discipline to briefly review their role with the victim and interactions with other SART members

How to Present the Case

- ⇒ Have each discipline address what they thought was done especially well and what might be done differently in the future (with emphasis on own disciplines role)
- ⇒ Have each discipline address what did others did that facilitated victim recovery/ case progress

How to Present the Case

Components for each discipline to consider when presenting their part of the case

How to Present the Case: Advocate

- ⇒ How made initial contact with victim
- ⇒ Initial victim concerns
 - Reporting concerns?
 - Exam / health concerns?
- ⇒ Special needs identified (language; hard of hearing, etc)-How addressed?

How to Present the Case: Advocate

- ⇒ Continued victim contacts and needs
 - Victim feedback to hospital/ LE/pre-trial/trial/sentencing/ post-sentencing
 - Long-term Impact of case on victim-ongoing services
- ⇒ Victim status today, if known

How to Present the Case: SANE

- ⇒ Victim history of assault
 - Time between assault and exam (if delay, why?)
 - Suspected DFSA? Why? Why not? (Impact on case)
- ⇒ Consent issues? How resolved?

How to Present the Case: SANE

- ⇒ Exam completed?
 - What evidence was collected-why/why not?
 - Were injuries identified-how documented?
 - Treatment provided
- ⇒ Family/friends present/Discharged to?
- ⇒ Problems encountered-how resolved
- ⇒ Unique or unusual aspects of case
- ⇒ Assessment/conclusions?

How to Present the Case: Law Enforcement

- ⇒ Initial report and follow-up interview summary
- ⇒ Inconsistencies?
- ⇒ Evidence collected
- ⇒ Problems with case & how overcome

How to Present the Case: Law Enforcement

- ⇒ Value of SANE report to LE
 - Was report legible?
 - Language understandable?
 - Quotes useful - How?
 - Inconsistencies with LE report-How handled?
 - What information/evidence was the most helpful?
- ⇒ How was suspect identified? Arrest made?

How to Present the Case: Crime Lab

- ⇒ Was evidence complete & collected properly?
- ⇒ What evidence was run? How decided?
- ⇒ What evidence was identified from kit? From crime scene?
- ⇒ What additional evidence/information would have been helpful? (eg what was likely collected)

How to Present the Case: Prosecutor

- ⇒ Issues considered in making a charging decision
- ⇒ What information was the most helpful in making the charging decision? What else would have helped?
- ⇒ Biggest concern when deciding to go forward?
- ⇒ Pre-trial/ trial issues
- ⇒ Outcome
- ⇒ Would you charge a similar case in the future? Why? Why not?

Advanced Peer Reviews

Once trust has been established tackle

- ⇒ Especially difficult or problem cases
- ⇒ Open cases with issues of immediate concern

Case Example

Impact of SART

- ⇒ Higher reporting rates
- ⇒ Higher % of prosecutions
- ⇒ Better evidence collection
- ⇒ More plea bargains
- ⇒ Better survivor cooperation
- ⇒ Better services for survivors
- ⇒ Facilitates survivor recovery

**Sixth National SART Training
Conference, Austin, Texas
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SART Resources

- IACP (2008). Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Victims: A 21st Century Strategy
- IACP (2008). IACP Sexual Assault Guidelines: Supplemental Report Form and Investigative Strategies. (To order call: 800-The IACP ext 809)
- West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services, Inc. (2008). West Virginia Protocol for Responding to Victims of Sexual Assault: A Multidisciplinary Victim-Centered Approach, www.frjs.com

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We have come a long way!

Questions?