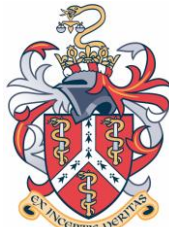


FACULTY OF FORENSIC & LEGAL MEDICINE

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Forensic Sampling: HCPs working in General Forensic Medicine (GFM) Wednesday 17 February 2021

Learning Objectives

The learning objectives of the webinar are that you will be able to:

- explain the advances in forensic science that support the current DNA anticontamination guidance and manage the preparation of facilities prior to taking samples;
- demonstrate the appropriate techniques for taking and correctly labelling forensic samples;
- understand the importance of providing the necessary information to the forensic scientists.

Attending the webinar does not deem you to be competent to obtain forensic samples or undertake a forensic medical examination. Such competency will follow summative assessment(s), after appropriate theoretical training and supervised clinical practice, supported by periodic formative assessments by your clinical/educational supervisor.

Please note the webinar for SOM (February 2020) is still available to view.

Preparation and pre-reading

Anatomy

- the mouth
- the female external and internal genitalia
- the male external genitalia
- the anal canal and rectum

FFLM Resources and Publications [Resources | FFLM](#)

N.B.

- The links below are to the 'landing' page, so that they remain correct as the publications are updated; the list covers documents relevant to those working in GFM and SOM.
- Please also see the specific guidance in the 'hub' in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic: [COVID-19 | FFLM](#)

Recommendations for the collection of samples from suspects and complainants, (January 2021).

[Recommendations for the Collection of Forensic Specimens from Complainants and Suspects | FFLM](#)

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Recommendations for the collection of samples from suspects and complainants – the evidence, (January 2021).

[Recommendations for the Collection of Forensic Specimens from Complainants and Suspects – the evidence | FFLM](#)

FFLM Forensic Science Subcommittee (FSSC) newsletter, (January 2021).

[FFLM Forensic Science Subcommittee Newsletter | FFLM](#)

Please note, other editions are in the FFLM publications area

FFLM Forensic Medical Examination (FME) Form, (January 2020).

[Proforma - Forensic Medical Examination Form | FFLM](#)

Assessments (alcohol and drugs) under the RTA, (October 2020).

[Assessments \(alcohol & drugs\) under the RTA | FFLM](#)

Position Statement: on the management of requests by police for intimate samples for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) from detainees in police custody, (May 2019).

https://fflm.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PositionStatement_STItests_Custody_May19.pdf

Recommendations for the examination of female suspects of sexual assault. (January 2021)

[Recommendations for the examination of female suspects of sexual assault | FFLM](#)

Guide to establishing urgency of sexual offence examination, (May 2019).

[Guide to establishing urgency of sexual offence examination | FFLM](#)

- Flow chart for pre-pubertal complainant.
- Flow chart for post-pubertal complainant.

Position Statement: on video recording assessments in police custody (April 2019).

[FFLM Position Statement on video recording assessments in custody | FFLM](#)

N.B. This document is currently being reviewed and updated (February 2021)

Recommendations: Consent from Children and Young people in police custody in England and Wales for medical examination, (January 2019).

[Recommendations - Consent from children and young people in police custody in England and Wales | FFLM](#)

Recommended equipment for obtaining forensic samples from suspects and complainants, (June 2020).

[Recommended Equipment for Obtaining Forensic Samples from Complainants and Suspects | FFLM](#)

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Recommendations: Operational procedures and equipment for clinical rooms (December 2019)

[Recommendations - Operational procedures and equipment for clinical rooms | FFLM](#)

Recommendations: Labelling Forensic Samples (January 2019)

[Recommendations - Labelling Forensic Samples | FFLM](#)

Care of suspects of sexual assault in police custody, (September 2018).

[Care of Suspects of Sexual Assault in Police Custody | FFLM](#)

Drug-driving competencies, (February 2018).

[FFLM Drug-Driving Competencies | FFLM](#)

Recommendations for the examination of female suspects of sexual assault, (January 2021).

[SARC Storage of Forensic Samples & the Human Tissue Act: Frequently Asked Questions | FFLM](#)

Taking blood from incapacitated drivers, (May 2020).

[Taking Blood Specimens from Incapacitated Drivers | FFLM](#)

Blood samples in hospital for unconscious/incapacitated drivers, (June 2020).

[Blood Samples in Hospital for Unconscious/Incapacitated Patients | FFLM](#)

Recommendations for collecting hair samples for toxicology, (June 2020).

[Recommendations for Collecting Hair Samples for Toxicology | FFLM](#)

Recommendations for collecting nail clippings for toxicology, (June 2020).

[Recommendations for Collecting Nail Clippings for Toxicology | FFLM](#)

SARC storage of forensic samples and the Human Tissue Act: frequently asked questions, (January 2021).

[SARC Storage of Forensic Samples & the Human Tissue Act: Frequently Asked Questions | FFLM](#)

Guidance on paternity Testing (January 2020)

[Guidance on Paternity Testing | FFLM](#)

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Other documents and publications

The Forensic Science Regulator's (FSR's) Guidance.

DNA anti-contamination: forensic medical examination in sexual assault referral centres and custodial facilities, (September 2020).

[Sexual assault referral centres and custodial facilities: DNA anti-contamination - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sexual-assault-referral-centres-and-custodial-facilities-dna-anti-contamination)

Forensic Science Regulator's Anonymous Reporting Line, powered by the CrimeStoppers charity

[Anonymous reporting line for forensic science professionals launched - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/anonymous-reporting-line-for-forensic-science-professionals-launched)

The Royal Society and The Royal Society of Edinburgh

Forensic DNA analysis: A Primer for Courts, (November 2017)

[science-and-law-statistics-primer.pdf \(royalsociety.org\)](https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rsos.170200)

and link to 'landing' page:

[Science and the law | Royal Society](https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rsos.170200)

Nittis M. Sexual Assault Examination. In Clinical Forensic Medicine – A Physician's Guide. Ed. Stark MM. Springer Nature Switzerland 2020

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Application to the FFLM examinations

See extracts from the individual examination regulations, which were updated in 2020

[Exam Regulations & Guidance | FFLM](#)

Membership (MFFLM) Part 2 SOM & GFM Forensic Science and Toxicology

Forensic science is making an increasing contribution to clinical forensic medicine. You should be familiar with methods of forensic sampling, analysis and interpretation of different forensic samples including hair, blood, urine, etc. In addition, you should understand the principles behind the use of DNA and its limitations and how to take steps to reduce contamination.

Examples of questions might include:

- The types of samples taken from an assailant of an alleged sexual assault
- Persistence data

Licentiate (LFFLM) SOM

Candidates must be able to:

Demonstrate the collection of forensic samples, including how to ensure minimal cross contamination and appropriate labelling and packaging of forensic and / or STI samples with the regard to the chain of evidence and admissibility of evidence.

Examples of questions might include:

- Describe the use of early evidence kits.
- Discuss accurately the logistics for the forensic medical examination, including the nature of the assault, assailant (type/number involved), persistence of evidence, suitability of premises for examination and preservation of evidence.
- Discuss current persistence data and recovery methods for trace evidence.
- Demonstrate the collection of forensic samples, including how to ensure minimal cross contamination and appropriate labelling and packaging of forensic with the regard to the chain of evidence and admissibility of evidence.
- Explain the forensic requirements for collection, storage and use of products of conception as evidence following termination of pregnancy.

Licentiate (LFFLM) GFM

Candidates must be able to:

Demonstrate the collection of forensic samples, including how to ensure minimal cross contamination and appropriate labelling and packaging of forensic samples with the regard to the chain of evidence and admissibility of evidence.

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Examples of questions might include:

- Discuss accurately the logistics for the forensic medical examination, including the nature of the assault, assailant (type/number involved), persistence of evidence, suitability of premises for examination and preservation of evidence.
- Discuss current persistence data and recovery methods for trace evidence.
- Demonstrate the collection of forensic samples, including how to ensure minimal cross contamination and appropriate labelling and packaging of forensic samples with the regard to the chain of evidence and admissibility of evidence.

Presenters

Dr Bernadette Butler



Bernadette Butler, ('Dr B') graduated from St Thomas' Hospital Medical School, sometime in the last century, when there were as many individual medical schools in London as the rest of the UK. Initially, her career path was in Obstetrics & Gynaecology; her forensic medical career began in 2000, at the Haven Camberwell, which was the pilot sexual assault service for South London, where she was one of the first sessional doctors. Her education in Clinical Forensic and Legal Medicine was supported by the London DMJ Study Club and then the University of Ulster's post-graduate Diploma in Forensic & Legal Medicine.

She job-shared the senior doctor role at the Haven Camberwell until January 2015 and is now the Havens' Clinical Education & Training Lead and continues her clinical role as a forensic physician, on the on-call rota.

She has a post-graduate award in Medical Education and is an examiner for the FFLM. She was the Academic Dean 2016-2019. She was the Clinical Director of Hope House, the Gloucestershire SARC from July 2017 - July 2019.

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Dr Sandy Fielding



Dr Fielding has been working in Clinical Forensic Medicine (both SARC and Custody) since 2003 and is a Fellow of the FFLM, a FFLM Examiner and a FFLM Board Member. She currently works in both Custody and SARCs.

She races a Modern Classic yacht and is a Committee member of the British Classic Yacht Club.

Dr Alex Gorton



Alex Gorton is Assistant Registrar to the FFLM, conference secretary and a facilitator for the Faculty course in General Forensic Medicine. He has been a forensic physician for 10 years both as a clinical lead and as medical director for a private provider. He has co-authored a number of recent practice guidelines as well as contributing to the most recent edition of the 'Blue Guidelines'. In addition to his work in general forensic medicine he maintains his clinical skills working as a part time middle grade in emergency medicine. He regularly provides training sessions to ED clinicians on injury documentation and statement writing skills.

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Dr Helena Thornton



I qualified in Birmingham, and moved to Manchester in 1980. I worked as a GP until 2017, and started working at St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre in 1995.

I joined the Faculty at its inception and was made a Fellow in 2008. I have been an examiner since 2010, and was the Chief Examiner from 2013 to 2018.

I am currently the President of the Clinical, Forensic and Legal Medicine Section of the Royal Society of Medicine.

I live in Saddleworth with my husband Christopher and three very spoilt cats.