FACULTY OF FORENSIC & LEGAL MEDICINE

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The Press Association

Sir, Madam,

This week we learned a serving police officer was convicted of numerous sexual offences, against a number of women.

Such crimes where an individual's choice and autonomy are ignored, are devastating, both physically and psychologically.

As forensic clinicians, we wish to ensure that anyone, of any age, sexuality or gender, affected by such crimes, is aware they can seek help and support from a sexual assault referral centre, (SARC), without having to inform the police. SARCs are specialist centres, across the UK, offering a number of self-referral choices and details of the nearest SARC can be found via <u>www.nhs.uk</u> in the search function.

We would encourage anyone affected by such crimes to contact their local SARC.

Yours faithfully

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