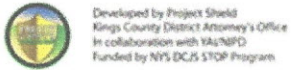


# Medical Model vs. Patient-Centered Model

## Victims of Assault with Developmental Disabilities



Person with IDD presents in the ED and is identified as being sexually assaulted.

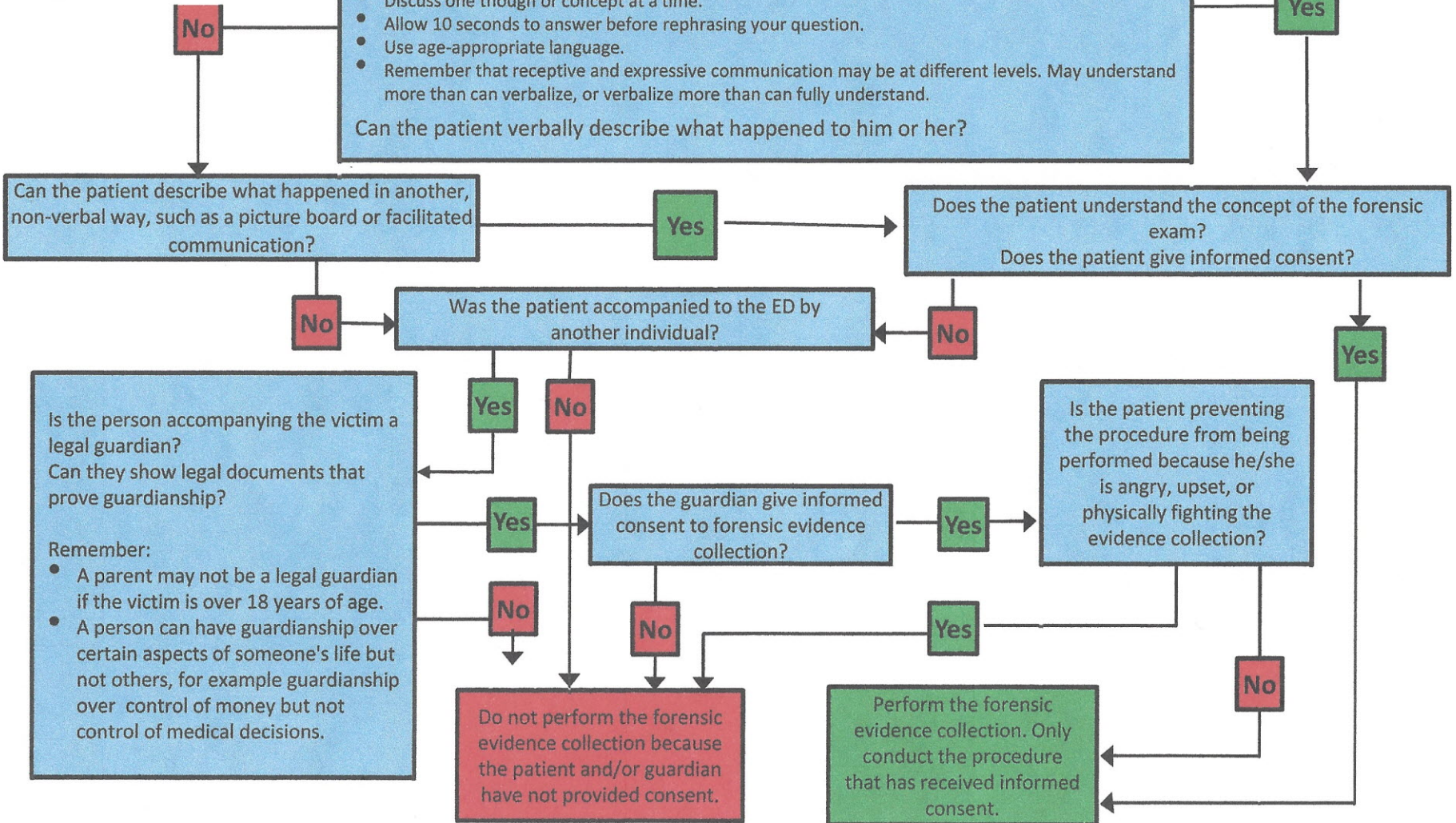
Speak with the patient alone, in a safe and confidential location.

Take time to question the patient using these tips:

- Explain your role and why the exam is being performed.
- Go slowly – remember trauma can cause more difficulty speaking, communicating, and comprehending than usual.
- Ask open-ended questions using simple words and basic sentence structure.
- Discuss one thought or concept at a time.
- Allow 10 seconds to answer before rephrasing your question.
- Use age-appropriate language.
- Remember that receptive and expressive communication may be at different levels. May understand more than can verbalize, or verbalize more than can fully understand.

Can the patient verbally describe what happened to him or her?

**Victims of Sexual Assault with Intellectual and other Developmental Disabilities - IDD**  
 When a victim of sexual assault with IDD presents in the ED, use this flow chart to provide the best services to the patient. Remember that this is a guide; check with your hospital policies.



Is the person accompanying the victim a legal guardian?  
 Can they show legal documents that prove guardianship?

Remember:

- A parent may not be a legal guardian if the victim is over 18 years of age.
- A person can have guardianship over certain aspects of someone's life but not others, for example guardianship over control of money but not control of medical decisions.

Do not perform the forensic evidence collection because the patient and/or guardian have not provided consent.

Perform the forensic evidence collection. Only conduct the procedure that has received informed consent.