



February 21, 2023
Kerry A. Collins
Undersecretary for Forensic Science and Technology
Executive office of Public Safety and Security
1 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Undersecretary Collins,

Thank you for submitting information related to the sexual assault kits which may be encountered at Joint Commission accredited organizations. Listed below is the inquiry submitted by your organization:

The Joint Commission recently received an inquiry regarding sexual assault kits owned by the Executive Office for Public Safety and Security and supplied to MA healthcare organizations. These kits may contain potentially expired components, specifically cotton swabs and a buccal swab, that clinicians are instructed to replace with hospital supplies if applicable. Organizations are concerned they will receive a deficiency if "expired" sexual assault kits are found by Joint Commission surveyors during surveys. After additional review at The Joint Commission, it has been determined that these sexual assault kits are the property of the State and would be outside the scope of a Joint Commission accreditation survey even while stored onsite at Joint Commission accredited organizations.

Please feel free to share this with any of our accredited organizations.

Sincerely,

Robert Campbell, PharmD, BCSCP
Director, Standards Interpretation Group
Director, Medication Management