

Legal Medicine and Toxicology Module:

Tutorial 06: Sexual abuse/child abuse

15 year old girl was produced for medico-legal examination by a police officer stating that she has eloped with a man 3 days ago because she has been subjected to cruel inhuman acts by her step father for many years.

1. List the medical and medico-legal issues that you are expected to address in this girl as the first contacting doctor
2. List the steps that you would follow in the medico-legal examination to address the above

During the history taking the girl stated that she “the man had inserted his penis into her sex with her several times in various ways during this past 72 hours and she has observed bleeding in her underwear. Now she is having burning sensation when she pass urine and defecation” .

3. List the injuries that you are expecting to observe in the genitalia in this situation
4. List the evidential sample that you would obtain from the genital examination of this girl

The genital examination revealed annular hymen, 2 fresh tears 5 o'clock and 7 o'clock positions, two fresh lacerations at the anal margin. The high vaginal smear and the cervical swab revealed degrading spermatozoa while the anal swab was negative for sperms.

5. State the opinion that you would write in the medico-legal report to the courts
6. List the signs and symptoms you should look in this girl who alleges to be subjected to 'cruel inhuman acts' by her step father for many years.
7. List the investigations that you will conduct to diagnose child abuse
8. State the steps of medical management in this girl