

A Coordinated Response to a Complex Problem

CCFMTC is dedicated to building a strong collaboration that brings together disciplines of healthcare, criminal and juvenile justice systems, and investigative social services within California.

Healthcare



Law Enforcement



Social Services



Criminal Justice

Become Part of the Solution

Call CCFMTC or log in to our website, ccfmtc.org, to get the latest training schedule. These trainings and programs are offered free or at a nominal cost to all qualified California residents.

Non-residents will be charged an out-of-state tuition. Training and consultation are also available nationally and internationally on a contractual basis.

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CALIFORNIA
CLINICAL FORENSIC
MEDICAL TRAINING CENTER



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Improving the Healthcare Response to Violence



Violence is both a criminal justice and public health priority that requires an integrated multi-disciplinary approach. The California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center (CCFMTC) was established by state law to increase access by victims of interpersonal violence to trained healthcare professionals throughout California.

Healthcare providers are trained to:

- identify, examine, evaluate and document injuries;
- interpret findings;
- better manage the healthcare consequences of abuse;
- effectively collaborate with social services, law enforcement agencies, advocacy organizations, and the criminal justice system.

CCFMTC also trains:

- law enforcement officers,
- coroners/medical examiners,
- district attorneys,
- public defenders,
- dependency law attorneys,
- investigative social workers, and
- judges

about medical evidentiary examination procedures and the interpretation of forensic medical findings.

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We Are Here to Help

As a healthcare professional, a social worker, a lawyer, or a member of a law enforcement agency, you may have seen where the system can fail...

A patrol officer brings a sexual assault victim to the emergency room. After she is examined, the evidence is improperly dried and packaged. As a result, the crime laboratory cannot analyze the evidence.

A social worker suspects that a 4-year old client is being sexually abused. She arranges for the child to have a medical exam. No healthcare professional in the area has been trained on how to perform a forensic medical exam. The findings, while suspicious, are inconclusive and the social worker has no choice but to return the child to the high-risk situation.

A physician suspects domestic violence when a female patient presents with abrasions that are inconsistent with her story on how the injuries occurred. The physician does not know how to approach the issue of abuse or document her concerns. A month later, the woman suffers a fatal beating. When the prosecuting attorney subpoenas records of the exam, they are of little help in providing evidence of prior physical abuse.

A nurse cares for an elderly woman with bruises on her face. The patient's son insists everything is fine. The nurse practitioner has a strong suspicion that the elderly woman is in an unsafe environment but doesn't know what to do next.

If these stories sound familiar, we can help...



Course Content

Statutory focus:

- Sexual Assault and Child Sexual Abuse
- Child Physical Abuse and Neglect
- Domestic Violence
- Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse

Standardized curriculum and training programs are designed to increase knowledge and skills in these areas:

- Sexual assault and child sexual abuse forensic medical examinations, documentation of injuries, collection and management of evidence, and interpretation of findings
- Forensic photography
- Courtroom communications
- Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART)
- Medical directors and coordinators course
- Multi-disciplinary approach and team models for collaborating with law enforcement, advocacy organizations and social service agencies
- Identification, assessment and case management for patients who have been assaulted, abused, or neglected
- Delineation between accidental and non-accidental injuries
- Abusive head trauma
- Epidemiology, dynamics and psychological trauma

A Variety of Training Options Available

CCFMTC is dedicated to reaching every region in the state using traditional training methods, as well as state-of-the-art distance learning technology. We provide trainings in both rural and urban communities and can deliver training in several venues:

- Basic, advanced and specialized courses
- Seminars and classes on-site or in your community
- Presentations at your professional meetings
- Videoconferencing or telecourses through satellite transmission
- Case consultations
- Telemedicine for quality assurance and consultations
- Policy forums and research symposiums to educate stakeholders, policymakers and professionals to develop an optimal community response to victims

CCFMTC's Vision

CCFMTC is dedicated to improving California's healthcare system response to victims of interpersonal violence by:

- Increasing the numbers of trained, qualified healthcare providers in rural and urban areas with the expertise to respond comprehensively to the victim's health and clinical forensic medical needs
- Improving the quality of examinations, documentation of findings, collection and management of evidence, and interpretation of findings
- Promoting teamwork among hospitals and public and private agencies to create a coordinated community response
- Creating medical leadership at the community level
- Building clinical forensic medical expertise throughout California
- Bridging the gap between medical services and the criminal justice system
- Expanding the depth and breadth of scientific knowledge