

St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) — the UK's First, Manchester

Gender Equality · Good practice · United Kingdom

Quality score: 78/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Opened in 1986 as the UK's first Sexual Assault Referral Centre, St Mary's in Manchester gives free forensic exams, health care and counselling on one site; it served 4,491 children and adults in 2022/23 and created the now UK-wide Independent Sexual Violence Advisor role.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	3/3
Impact on gender equality	1/1
Effectiveness	1/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	0/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-31

[Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust — St Mary's Hospital](#) — accessed 2026-08-31

[Clients who self-refer to a Sexual Assault Referral Centre \(SARC\): case characteristics](#) — accessed 2026-08-31

[The experiences of sexually assaulted people attending St Mary's SARC for a forensic medical examination](#) — accessed 2026-08-31

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