While sexual violence takes many forms, these guidelines focus on providing care for victims of sexual assault and victims of child sexual abuse. For the purposes of these guidelines, rape is defined as “physically forced or otherwise coerced penetration – even if slight – of the vulva or anus, using a penis, other body parts or an object” (1). This definition includes coerced sexual activity that may not be considered rape if the local legal definition of rape is narrow (e.g., confined to vaginal penetration with a penis). Most significantly perhaps, sexual abuse can have devastating long-term psychological effects, influencing and radically altering a person’s entire life course. 2.5.1 Physical consequences.