

Institute of Forensic and Traffic Medicine, Heidelberg, Germany

Short Description

The Institute of Forensic and Traffic Medicine Heidelberg launched the first clinical forensic examination unit of Baden-Wuerttemberg in 2011. The forensic outpatient unit is available 24 hours on 7 days per week and offers early and low-threshold examinations for example in cases of suspected child maltreatment, domestic violence, and sexual assault. In addition to the forensic examination, the following services are provided:

- Documentation of injuries
- Securing of traces on the body and assessment of clothes
- Forensic reconstruction of the sequence of events
- Further examinations, e.g. chemical-toxicological analyses, forensic-radiological examinations. If requested, information on suitable counseling centers and mediation of corresponding offers, such as further medical care, contact to victim support groups and legal advice centers
- Telephone counseling on clinical forensic issues specifically for physicians

The staff consists of 10 MD, 1 psychologist, 5 biologists, 8 lab technicians, and 8 secretaries. Cooperations with departments of the University Clinic of Heidelberg, with the youth welfare offices of Baden-Wuerttemberg, the public prosecutor's office, the police and several self-help organizations provide the basis for a close network, which ensures legal security.

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