



Recognition and Management of Maltreatment in Infants (Children under the age of 1)

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NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Recognition and management of maltreatment in children under the age of 1 year

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document aims to assist clinicians in the management of children who present with an injury under the age of 1 year and where there are concerns

1 proforma. There is a low threshold for infants under 1 with such injuries being admitted. There may also be sufficient concern to warrant further investigation if alerting features such as:

- Lack of parental supervision
- Drug/alcohol misuse
- Parental mental health problem
- Domestic Abuse
- Previous concerning presentations to other professionals
- Signs suggestive of neglect/emotional abuse
- Care must be taken regarding assessment siblings especially twins
- Are present

This allows other investigations such as skeletal survey, head CT and ophthalmological assessment. If clinical decision is not to proceed to admission the reasons for this should be clearly documented in the notes.

If practitioners have concerns about an under 1, then a urgent referral by telephone should be made to social work services (see table below) and you should request a child protection investigation. A Notification of Concern form (*previously known as Shared Referral Form*) via Clinical Portal E-forms should also be completed for all cases.

3.0 SIGNS/SMYPTOMS INDICATING CONCERNS REGARDING EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

There are many signs and symptoms most of which are non-specific. For further information regarding these please refer to the following document <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg89/resources/child-maltreatment-when-to-suspect-maltreatment-in-under-16s-975697287109>

In addition there is the RCPCH Companion for RCPCH members:-

[RCPCH Child Protection Companion](#) (Hard copy of this can be obtained from 07 102 00 4444)

Presentation to Emergency Department with Physical Injury
(Child < 1 year of age)

Complete < 1 injury proforma

- Concern about History or Presentation
- Discuss with Senior

- Timely Presentation
- Consistent History

Any Concern identified

Senior has no concerns

No injury identified

- Injury Identified – Manage injury
- Discuss with Senior

Complete a NOC and submit to Social Work

Discharge

Discharge

- Injury Consistent
- Senior has no concerns

Discharge

• **ADMIT UNDER SHARED CARE APPROPRIATE SPECIALTY/CHILD**

