

## Medical Examination in Cases of Suspected Child Abuse

Procedure to be followed after a strategy discussion to include social care, Police and health

### Derby City and Southern Derbyshire

Concern about <b>Sexual Abuse</b>	Examinations for children who may have been sexually abused, now all take place at the East Midlands Children and Young People's Sexual Assault Service (EMCYPAS Tel: 0800 183 0023) <a href="https://www.emcypsas.co.uk/">https://www.emcypsas.co.uk/</a> This service is based at: Children and Young People's Suite Nottingham, Queens Medical Centre, Derby Road, Nottingham, NG7 2UH	
Concern about <b>Non Accidental Injury</b>	<b>8.30am – 4pm Mon- Fri</b>	<b>All other times if felt to be urgent (please see Procedures)</b>
Children <b>18 months and older</b>	<b>Where the child does not require immediate medical attention</b> examination by the Community Paediatric team can be arranged by calling the Safeguarding Children Unit at Kingsway House on: <b>01332 623700 ext. 31537</b>	Examinations by the on call Paediatric Registrar can be arranged by calling the Royal Derby Hospital (University Hospitals of Derby and Burton) on <b>01332 340131</b> and asking switchboard to page the registrar
Children <b>under 18 months</b>	Examinations by the on call Hospital Paediatric Registrar can be arranged by calling Royal Derby Hospital (University Hospitals of Derby and Burton) on <b>01332 340 131</b> and ask the switchboard to page the on-call registrar	
Non-urgent concern about <b>Significant Neglect</b>	Cases should be referred in writing (can be emailed) to: The Children's Safeguarding Office, Kingsway House, Kingsway Hospital, Derby DE22 3LZ or email <a href="mailto:dmh-tr.SafeguardingChildrenUnit@nhs.net">dmh-tr.SafeguardingChildrenUnit@nhs.net</a> These will be seen within 4 week maximum. Please see further notes below.	
Urgent concern about <b>Neglect</b>	In urgent cases of severe neglect, a telephone discussion should be had with the on call community paediatrician to determine the timing of the medical. Guidance can be found in the timings section of <a href="#">Paediatric Assessments/S47 procedure</a> . On rare occasions children are considered to be at immediate risk through severe neglect, and Police or Social Care may consider that urgent steps may be needed to safeguard the children. The timing of the medical assessment should reflect the need for medical evidence to inform this decision or be used in court proceedings, and will normally be within 24 hours.	

1. Medical cover out of hours is for emergencies only and medicals which take place outside 9am to 4pm should only be requested where there is urgent concern regarding the health of the child, or where arrangements to safeguard the child cannot be made without medical advice or opinion.
2. Every effort will be made on the part of medical staff to avoid delay, but there are circumstances when urgent clinical work has to take priority over a child protection medical and delay is unavoidable. This may occur at any time, but is particularly the case out of hours.

3. When referring for a non-urgent medical assessment for neglect, a written referral should be sent to the Safeguarding Office as above, including background health and social situation, parental background and health, the nature of any specific health concerns and any specific questions that need to be answered. The letter should clearly state that the medical is required for assessment of neglect and what the current level of social care involvement is. This medical will be arranged to be seen at Derbyshire Children's Hospital as per NAI medicals. It is possible that an appointment will be offered that then needs to be given to a more urgent possible NAI case. Where this occurs and the non-urgent neglect medical needs to be rearranged, the service will endeavour to give a notice period of one hour for children in the City and two hours for children in the County and an alternative appointment offered. Every effort will be made to avoid this scenario.

### Version Control

<b>This document replaces all other previous published versions and should be read in conjunction with the DDSCP Procedures</b>					
<b>Version</b>	<b>Author/s Consultant</b>	<b>Updated by</b>	<b>Signed off by</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Review Date</b>
1	Paediatrician and Designated Doctor for Derby City		DSCB Policy and Procedures Group	April 2017	April 2020
2		Consultant Paediatrician and Designated Doctor for Derby City	DSCB Policy and Procedures Group	November 2018	November 2021
3		Consultant Paediatrician and Designated Doctor for Derby City	DDSCP Policy & Procedures Group	February 2020	February 2022