

SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

Child in immediate danger or alleging a specific incident of sexual abuse within the past two weeks:

Refer to the Police for immediate protection or to expedite collection of forensic evidence.

Police: Blackburn 51212

N.B. A referral must also be made to Social Services.

Check this has been done.

GPs may wish to discuss less clear-cut cases with a Consultant Paediatrician or with Named Doctor (see below).

In these cases either the GP or the Paediatrician should undertake to refer to Social Services if necessary.

**All other cases of suspected abuse or neglect including concern re possible sexual abuse where no specific allegation is made:
Refer to Local Social Services Department Offices**

Blackburn 587547

Out of Hours?

Social Services Emergency Duty Team 587547

Confirm the referral in writing within 2 working days, keeping a copy for your records.

Document fully your concerns, observations, discussions, decisions made and by whom the referral was taken.

Obtain consent of the parent/child for the referral and record, unless gaining consent puts the child at further **Risk of Significant Harm.**

Do not question the child or try to obtain further disclosure.

Listen to and record all information. Do not promise confidentiality but advise you must share information to ensure child is protected.

Share information with relevant members Primary Care Team eg. Health Visitors & School Nurses.

Advice and support available from the Named Doctor and Nurse for the Trust
Angela Parry 690188
Dawn Victoratos 263611