

Main Office

1034 Sixth Avenue North
Naples, Florida 34102

941-263-8383

Fax: 941-263-7931

Hours: 8 AM to 5 PM, Mon-Fri
On call 24 hr/day

Satellite Office

Marion E. Fether Medical Center
1454 Madison Avenue
Immokalee, Florida 34142
(By appointment)

Child Protection Team is sponsored by the
Collier County Child Advocacy Council, Inc.,
State of Florida Department of Health,
State of Florida Office of the Attorney General
and the United Way of Collier County.



1034 Sixth Avenue North
Naples, Florida 34102

CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

COLLIER COUNTY
CHILD ADVOCACY COUNCIL, INC.



PHYSICAL ABUSE

The National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse defines **PHYSICAL ABUSE** as a non-accidental injury or pattern of injuries to a child. **PHYSICAL ABUSE** is not usually just one isolated attack on a child. The abuse takes place over a period of time and the effects may be long term. The longer **PHYSICAL ABUSE** continues, the more serious it becomes, the more serious the injuries become, and it is more difficult to stop.

THE SETTING OF ABUSE:

Parent: Lonely and isolated, sense of inferiority, inability to tolerate stress, history of being abused, role reversal, depressed.

Child: Unwanted, seen as different or bad, physically or mentally handicapped, hyper-active.

Life Crisis or Stress: Illness, marital or financial problems, death, etc.

If you know a child who is being abused or neglected, call Florida Abuse Hotline

1-800-96-ABUSE

INDICATORS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

- Unexplained bruises
- Unexplained burns
- Unexplained fractures
- Lacerations
- Puncture marks
- Swollen areas
- Missing hair
- Marks caused by bites or cigarette burns
- Bruises reflect instrument used, i.e., belt, extension cord, etc.
- Child shows frequent signs of minor or severe injury
- Child has numerous injuries in various stages of healing, indicating they could not have occurred at one time
- Child offers impossible explanation of injuries or seems afraid of parent
- Parent gives inadequate or conflicting explanation of child's injury
- Habitual absence from school
- Parent keeps child home until physical evidence disappears
- Evidence of delayed or inappropriate treatment of child's injuries

BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS

- Wary of adult contacts
- Apprehensive when other children cry
- Behavioral extremes, such as aggressiveness or withdrawal
- Frightened by parents
- Afraid to go home
- Reports injuries by parents

WHERE YOU CAN GET HELP OR MORE INFORMATION

- Call your pediatrician, local mental health agency or Department of Health for help.
- Report any suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the Department of Children & Families in the phone book under emergency numbers.
- Call the Child Protection Team for more information on child abuse and neglect.

