MGH CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM
Working towards a safer future for children and their families

A multidisciplinary program of the Massachusetts General Hospital providing leadership in response to child maltreatment
Consultation – Training – Liaison to community services

THE CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM PROVIDES:

- **Multidisciplinary, trauma-informed services**
  - Social Work Consultation
  - Child Abuse Pediatrician for all medically involved cases
  - Clinical Psychology consultation, as needed

- **Case-based consultation to all staff at MGH and associated community hospitals and clinics**
  - Team meetings, record review, consultation with specialists
  - Recommendation about studies in medically based cases
  - Safety planning for child, family, and staff
  - Guidance around filing mandated reports, when necessary
  - Follow-up clinic

- **Recommendations about other trauma-informed hospital resources such as:**
  - HAVEN: MGH Intimate partner violence program
  - West End Clinic: Addiction treatment and recovery services
  - Home Base Program: MGH service designed for service members, veterans, and their families

- **Training about all aspects of trauma and child maltreatment**
  - Multidisciplinary or discipline specific forums
  - Case-based, formal and informal teaching

- **Liaison with community/government agencies**
  - Department of Children and Families
  - Children’s Advocacy Centers
  - Pediatric/adult Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners
  - Law Enforcement

- **Expert witness testimony**
  - Care and protection hearings or criminal prosecution
  - Support to other hospital staff who may be required to testify

- **Research**
  - Trauma-informed research about family violence

TYPES OF CHILD MALTREATMENT

**Physical abuse:**
The infliction of physical injury by various methods such as hitting, shaking, throwing, burning, or kicking that results in minor marks, bruising, or even death

**Neglect:**
Failure to provide for a child’s basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, medical care, education or proper supervision

**Sexual Abuse:**
The involvement of a child in any sexual act, including commercial exploitation or making of pornography

**Emotional Abuse:**
An act or omission that has caused or could cause serious behavioral, cognitive, emotional, or mental disorders

These types of maltreatment often occur together within a family, although they can appear alone as well.

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect

Consultation Team is available 24hours/day, 7 days/week
Page operator: 617-724-5656  Beeper#: 32728
175 Cambridge Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02114