

INTERVIEW CHECKLIST GUIDELINES

Child Victim and Siblings

During interviews with the child victim and sibling(s), attempt to determine:

- ☐ Description of how the child received any known or visible injuries (i.e., location, time of day or night, day of week, etc.)
- ☐ Part of body injured and description of the injury (i.e., size, color, location, etc.)
- ☐ Prior injuries
- ☐ Any pain, bleeding, bruising, loss of consciousness at the time of or after the incident
- ☐ Cause of injury including object used
- ☐ Identification and description of person who inflicted injury
- ☐ Anyone else present when child was injured
- ☐ Anyone who saw the child's injury, at the time it occurred or afterwards
- ☐ Anyone the child talked to about being injured
- ☐ Anyone who told the child what to say regarding the incident and/or injury
- ☐ If the child is fearful of anyone
- ☐ Other children who have been injured, either in reference to this event or previously during the current incident or prior incidents
- ☐ Parent/caregiver's reaction to abuse or injury
- ☐ Other types of abuse or violence taking place in the home

Parents/Other Caregivers

During interviews with parents and other caregivers, attempt to determine:

- ☐ Who has knowledge of the child's injuries
- ☐ How they believe the child was injured
- ☐ If care of the child was transferred from one person to another, what was the child's condition at the time of transfer?
- ☐ Timeline of events, including a description of the day from each parent or caregiver separately
- ☐ Other potential child victims
- ☐ Contact information for other witnesses
- ☐ Knowledge of prior injury, abuse, or neglect
- ☐ All prior medical history including name and contact information for primary care provider, any medical conditions, medications, or allergies
- ☐ When was child last completely physically healthy
- ☐ If child is reported to have suffered a fall:
 - ☐ Height from which he/she fell
 - ☐ Surface onto which he/she fell
 - ☐ Other objects on which the child might have fallen
- ☐ If child has suffered a burn:
 - ☐ What child was wearing at time of being burned
 - ☐ What type of first-aid was applied
 - ☐ Pattern of injuries
 - ☐ What was water temperature at time of burn
- ☐ Child's developmental level (e.g. Was child able to turn water on/off, roll off bed, etc.?)

Note: Conduct interviews with each parent/other caregiver separately and in private.

Treating/Attending Physician and Other Medical Personnel

During interviews with the treating/attending physician and other medical personnel, attempt to determine:

- ☐ Child's injuries, diagnosis, and prognosis
- ☐ Child's report of injuries (what the child said happened and what symptoms they experienced)
- ☐ Parent/caregiver's report of child's injuries (what they saw or know of what happened, what symptoms they observed, when it happened)
- ☐ Time range when the injuries occurred, per medical opinion
- ☐ Additional information needed by the medical examiner to complete the diagnosis (e.g., x-rays, lab work, consultations with other medical specialties, etc.)
- ☐ Has the history provided by any of the parties changed? If so, how? Does the history provided match the child's injuries?
- ☐ Did the child, parents/caregivers, relatives, or anyone else say or do anything that was concerning to you or seemed unusual (e.g., father was unwilling to leave the mother alone with the child, family members were hesitant to provide details of the incident in question, etc.)