

Let us know what you think and get involved

T: 0300 124 5300*

E: sirona.hello@nhs.net

W: sirona-cic.org.uk

*Calls from landlines are charged up to 10p per minute; calls from mobiles vary, please check with your network provider. This is not a premium-rate number.

This document can be provided in other formats and languages, please contact us for more information.

Date of creation 03/23

Date for review 03/26

URN 0412

 /SironaCIC
 @SironaCIC
 /SironaCIC
 /sirona-care-&-health

Sirona care & health, Badminton
Rd Office, 2nd Floor, Badminton
Rd, Yate, BS37 5AF

Company Number: 07585003



Child Protection Medical

Your questions answered

**Information for
parents and carers**

Service provided by

**Sirona**
care & health

Introduction

We work in partnership with children/young people, and their parents and carers. This leaflet has been produced to help you to understand the child protection medical assessment. This is part of a child protection investigation involving social care, police and health working together to help your child/young person

Children have the right to be well cared for and feel safe and protected from harm. Our focus is to work with you to keep your child safe. We recognise this might be a difficult time and you may have lots of questions. It is important that you ask us to explain any parts of the process that you do not understand. We want you and your child's views to be listened to, and for you and your child to be given advice and support during this time.



Why is this examination necessary?

A medical examination has been requested because concern has been expressed about your child's well-being. An investigation will be led by either a social worker or a police officer. Your child will be examined by a paediatrician (specialist child and young person doctor). If there are other children in your family, they may also be asked to attend for an examination.

Consent/ Permission:

You or your child's permission (known as consent) will need to be given before the examination can take place. Your child can only consent if they are old enough to understand what they are consenting to. If you or your child does not give consent to the examination, and if the social worker and/or police feel an examination may be in your child's best interest, they will discuss this further with you. If they feel it is necessary, they may ask a judge to issue a court order giving them permission to interview or examine your child without your consent.



What happens?

A social worker or police officer will normally bring you and your child to the outpatient department at Eastgate House. If it is the evening or a weekend, you will be asked to go to the Children's Hospital. On arrival, a receptionist will confirm your child's name and details. The clinic assistant will welcome you and weigh and measure your child, as we do for all children.

The doctor will ask lots of questions about your child. They will ask about their health from the time they were born until now. This is because they need to know about any health problems that may affect your child. They will ask about family and home so that they can build up a picture of your child's daily life. They will also ask about the reasons the medical examination has been requested.

You will have the opportunity to talk about any health concerns you may have and to ask questions about the process. Your child may be given the opportunity to speak to the team alone, should they choose to, to help to ensure that they are listened to. You will also be able to speak to us without your child present if you wish. The doctor may speak to the social worker or police officer involved in the case.

What about the examination?

During the examination normally only you, your child, the doctor and a chaperone will be present. If anyone else needs to be involved, this will be discussed with you. The doctor will examine your child carefully, but sensitively. Any marks on your child will be noted, measured and drawn in the child's record. Photographs may also be taken of any marks on the skin. These will be stored securely and shared with relevant professionals if requested.

Other tests and treatment

Some children may need to have tests such as blood tests, scans, x-rays or eye examinations (by a specialist eye doctor). These help the doctors find out about medical conditions or find injuries that cannot be seen on examination. They usually take place at the Children's Hospital. Sometimes children need to be admitted to hospital for tests or treatment, particularly if they are under one.



What happens after the examination?

After the examination, the doctor will explain their findings to you and also to your child if they are old enough to understand. They will also explain their findings to the police officer and/or social worker. They will update you with the results of any tests, which may take several days to come back. The doctor will then write a report which is sent to social services and the police authority involved. It can be used as part of the evidence in a Children's Hearing or court case. They may also write to your GP, local hospital and health visitor or school nurse (if you have one) about the examination and any treatment or follow up. The report will not be shared with anyone other than these professionals without your permission.

The wellbeing of your child will be put first at all times.

After reading this leaflet, please make sure you ask questions about anything you do not understand or want to know more about.

More Information and Support:

Social Worker Name:

Telephone:

Police Officer Name:

Telephone:

Or contact your local Social Work Office or Police Station

Childline: Freephone 0800 1111

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000 (24 hour helpline).