

Skin Findings in Child Abuse

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Disclosure

- Dr. McCann discloses he has nothing to disclose.



Objectives

- Discuss cases of physical findings consistent with child physical abuse
- Discuss cases of physical findings that mimic abuse
- Discuss the use of a multi-disciplinary approach to care for pediatric victims of abuse.



Take Home Points

- Reporting a suspicion of abuse is not an accusation
- Those that don't bruise, don't bruise
- Consider supervisory neglect



Caveat!

- The following information is a general overview.
- This is no "one size fits all" in child abuse pediatrics.
- All children are different and all evaluations are different.



Bruising 101

- Active kids bruise
- Those that don't bruise, don't bruise.
- Many injuries are non-specific
- PATTERN and HISTORY are critical!



Bruising

- Important questions:
 - What was the child wearing?
 - What happened after the injury?
 - Who else was there?
- If an accidental injury, consider possible supervisory neglect.



Photo Warning



Normal toddler Bruising













































Burns

- PATTERN and HISTORY are critical!
- Important questions?
 - What was the child wearing?
 - What happened after the injury?
 - Who else was there?
- If an accidental injury, consider possible supervisory neglect.












Patterned Burns

- If possible, bring measurements of the potential object used, or the object itself.










Immersion Burns







Bites

- Size of teeth may not correlate with gender or person
- Consider swabbing for salivary DNA
- Compare with impressions





Photograph and Measure.





Impression on body very important



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 - What was the child wearing?
 - What happened after the injury?
 - Who else was there?
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Child Abuse Mimics











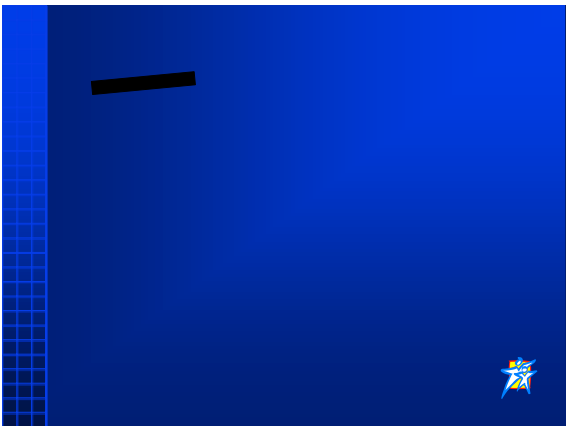

















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- Important questions?
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 - What happened after the injury?
 - Who else was there?
- If an accidental injury, consider possible supervisory neglect.



Multi-disciplinary Approach









