CHILD PHYSICAL ABUSE CLINICAL PATHWAY
CLINIC INITIAL WORKUP

CHILD Present with physical abuse symptoms:
• If child is not stable, refer to the Emergency Department.
• Obtain H&P (see Clinical Assessment).

Is there concern for abuse or an injury not consistent with history?

• Contact social work, law enforcement & Child Protective Services (CPS).
• Social work can assist with contacting law enforcement and CPS report.
• Discuss suspected abuse reporting requirements with family.

Yes

Refer to Emergency Department:
• "Do not have to wait for law enforcement to arrive".

No

Is the patient medically unstable, condition unable to be treated in clinic, and/or <2 years of age?

Yes

Based on clinical exam, is ED warranted?

Yes

Photograph injuries for burns, bites, or as clinically indicated (refer to Policy #CAT-003).

No

No

In discussion with law enforcement and/or social worker, is it safe to discharge patient?

Yes

Follow up instructions with caregiver(s).

Follow-up appointment with PCP.

No

Discuss disposition options with law enforcement, social worker, and CAT as needed.

Photograph injuries for burns, bites, or as clinically indicated (refer to Policy #CAT-003).

Does the patient need evaluation for bleeding disorders?

Yes

No

*Click for criteria information.

*Evaluation content in order set.

Based on clinical exam, is ED warranted?

Yes

No

*Do not accuse or treat these families any differently than others.
*Consider having the senior staff (APP or attending) or senior resident as primary providers for these cases.
*No call social worker at Children’s Hospital & Medical Center may be paged at 402-888-8420.
*There is always a CAT provider available via Voalte or hospital operator.

Disclaimer: Pathways are intended as a guide for practitioners and do not indicate an exclusive course of treatment nor serve as a standard of medical care. These pathways should be adapted by medical providers, when indicated, based on their professional judgement and taking into account individual patient and family circumstances.

ChildrensOmaha.org/Pathways

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