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| **Standard Operating Procedure** | COVID-19 Prioritisation for conducting Child Protection Medicals |
| **Target Audience:** | Children’s Social Care, BHT Peadiatricians, Peadiatric Nursing Staff & Community Staff  |
| **Document Reference:** | 1 |
| **Version:** | 1.0 |
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| **Approvals** | SDU Lead Paediatrics + Community Paediatric Consultants  |
| Senior management (Helene Anderson / Isobel Day)  |
| Safeguarding Team |
| **Uploaded to Intranet** |   |

**During the Coronavirus Pandemic it has been necessary to change the venue**

 **for all child protection medicals**

When a child has an unexplained or suspicious injury, has symptoms and signs of neglect or is a suspected victim of child sexual abuse, a medical assessment is usually an essential part of the multi-agency investigation. The majority of children should be seen during the daytime. Examination of children out of hours is rarely needed other than in cases of acute assault, either for medical or forensic necessity. Follow the Policy below for any sexual assault cases.

<http://swanlive/sites/default/files/v2_management_of_child_cases_2020-2021.pdf>

During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic it has been necessary to change the venue for all medicals.

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| 1 | All medicals will be conducted in Stoke Mandeville Hospital ONLY. The CP medicals will be completed in Children’s Outpatients Department.  |
| 2 | Social Worker notifies admin team of CP Medical request through to **01296 566056 (Mon to Fri 8am to 4pm)** The relevant information will then be passed to the Consultant covering CP Medicals for that day. This must include whether the child and/or family have any symptoms of COVID-19.* Any of the below
* Fever > 37.8C
* Cough
* SOB
* Flu-like symptoms

A decision will be made as to where and when the child will be seen and the social worker will be informed. If decision is for no examination this needs to be documented along with reasoning.Consideration of appropriate PPE should be as per current BHT Trust guidelines.  |
| 3 | **In the rare circumstance that a CP medical is urgently required out of hours and cannot wait until next working day** calls should be directed through the Acute Paediatric Consultant on-call via the SMH switchboard 01296 315000. Following this discussion a decision will be made about where and when the child should be seen (if needed).  |
| 4 | Only ONE parent and the Social Worker can attend with the child.  |
| 5 | The Child Protection proforma must be completed as fully as able with clear documentation to explain any variance. (*N.B. examination of the throat should only be done if high suspicion of injury due to this being considered an aerolising procedure.)* <https://live-rx-package-files.s3.amazonaws.com/2891/guideline263.pdf> |
| 6 | Any further investigations will be arranged as needed.  |
| 7 | Paediatricians will aim to provide the report within 5 working days, although may not always be able to do so. The Social Worker will informed of any such delays |

Reference: RCPCH COVID-19 guidance for paediatric services 07/04/2020