

Merseyside Child Protection Advisors Group
Fabricated or Induced Illness Guidelines
(to be read in conjunction with the guidance notes)

Stage 1

Emerging Concerns

The Health Professional must inform the Named Doctor/Nurse for Safeguarding Children who will review the information and check if any challenge to the family has been made, where it is safe to do so. This must be clearly documented and must include the response of the parent/carer.

The case should not be discussed with the parents/carers at this stage

Stage 2

The Health Professional and Named Doctor/Nurse gather information (electronic & paper) and must meet to review the information from within their own organisation

Stage 3

Refer to Designated Doctor who may allocate the case to a Consultant Community Paediatrician. Relevant health professionals will be asked to produce a chronology from their organisations involvement to inform decision making and a meeting will be convened. The chair of the meeting is responsible for seeking information from police, education and social care.

Stage 4a

Evidence of significant harm
or risk of significant harm

Referral made to Local Authority Children's Social Care

Stage 4b

Concerns exist but do not meet the threshold for referral to social care

Action plan to be put in place, further date for review meeting agreed

Stage 4c

No evidence of significant harm
Sufficient objective evidence of organic disease to account for presentation

- Document concerns and decisions taken
- Copies of typed minutes sent to relevant professionals
- Ongoing monitoring- by identified health professionals eg GP / Acute trust consultant

Stage 5

Multi Agency Strategy Meeting convened by Children's Social Care to include relevant health professionals

All this can be done & information shared without parent's knowledge/consent

NB: If the child lives out of the area, liaise with Designated Doctor for that area

NB: If at any stage in this process you have concerns about the immediate safety of a child a referral to children's social care must be made as per the usual LSCB procedure without delay