

Signs of Abuse and Neglect

Neglect occurs when parents or caregivers do not provide proper food, clothing, shelter, supervision, medical care, and education for healthy development.

Physical signs may include:

- Poor hygiene
- Inappropriate or ill-fitting clothes
- Obvious lack of necessary

Behavioral signs may include:

- Chronic hunger and sleepiness
- Clinging behavior
- Frequent complaints of feeling ill

Physical abuse is non-accidental injury of a child by a parent or caretaker.

Physical signs may include :

- Bruises, welts, swelling
- Sprains or broken bones
- Burns
- Lacerations or abrasions
- Bite marks

Behavioral signs may include:

- Attempts to hide injuries
- Difficulty sitting or walking
- Wariness of physical contact
- Reluctance to go home
- Fear of parent(s) or caregiver(s)

Sexual abuse is exploitation of a child for the sexual gratification of an adult or older child.

Physical signs may include:

- Torn, stained or bloody clothing
- Genital pain or itching
- Sexually transmitted diseases

Behavioral signs may include:

- Difficulty sitting or walking
- Precocious sexual behavior
- Self-mutilation

**To report suspected child abuse
or neglect call Child line:
1-800-932-0313**



A Child Abuse
Intervention Center