

Physical and Behavioral Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect

	Physical Indicators	Behavioral Indicators
PHYSICAL ABUSE	<p>Unexplained bruises and welts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ On face, lips, mouth ■ On torso, back, buttocks, thighs ■ In various stages of healing ■ Cluster, forming regular patterns ■ Reflecting shape of article used to inflict (electric cord, belt buckle) ■ On several different surface areas ■ Regularly appear after absence, weekend or vacation <p>Unexplained burns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Cigar, cigarette burns, especially on soles, palms, back or buttocks ■ Immersion burns (sock-like, glove-like doughnut shaped on buttocks or genitalia) ■ Patterned like electric burner, iron, etc. ■ Rope burns on arms, legs, neck or torso <p>Unexplained fractures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ To skull, nose, facial structure ■ In various stages of healing ■ Multiple or spiral fractures <p>Unexplained laceration or abrasions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ To mouth, lips, gums, eyes ■ To external genitalia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wary of adult contacts ■ Apprehensive when other children cry ■ Behavioral extremes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aggressiveness – Withdrawal ■ Frightened of parents ■ Afraid to go home ■ Reports injury by parents
PHYSICAL NEGLECT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consistent hunger, poor hygiene, inappropriate dress ■ Consistent lack of supervision, especially in dangerous activities or long periods ■ Constant fatigue or listlessness ■ Unattended physical problems or medical needs ■ Abandonment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Begging, stealing food ■ Extended stays at school (early arrival and late departure) ■ Constantly falling asleep in class ■ Alcohol or drug abuse ■ Delinquency (e.g. thefts) ■ States there is no caregiver
SEXUAL ABUSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Difficulty in walking or sitting ■ Torn, stained or bloody underclothing ■ Pain or itching in genital area ■ Bruises or bleeding in external genitalia, vaginal or anal areas ■ Venereal disease, especially in pre-teens ■ Pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Unwilling to change for gym or participate in PE ■ Withdrawn, fantasy or infantile behavior ■ Bizarre, sophisticated or unusual sexual behavior or knowledge ■ Poor peer relationships ■ Delinquent or run away ■ Reports sexual assault by caregiver
EMOTIONAL MALTREATMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Habit disorders (sucking, biting, rocking, etc.) ■ Conduct disorders (antisocial, destructible, etc.) ■ Neurotic traits (sleep disorders, speech disorders, inhibition of play) ■ Psychoneurotic reactions (hysteria, obsession, compulsion, phobias, hypochondria) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Behavior extremes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compliant, passive ● Aggressive, demanding ■ Overly adoptive behavior: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inappropriately adult ● Inappropriately infant ■ Attempted suicide