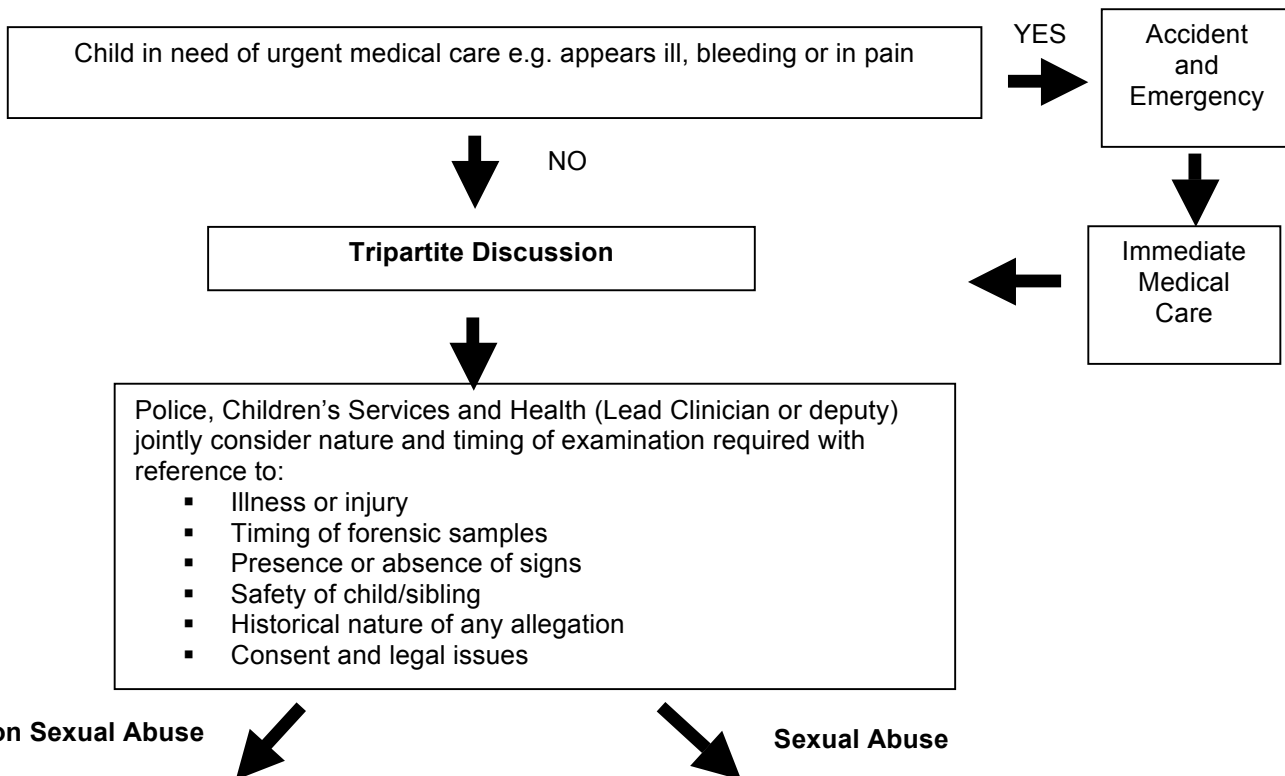


## PROCEDURE FOR ARRANGING MEDICAL EXAMINATION IN CASES OF ALLEGED CHILD ABUSE



Police, Children’s Services and Health (Lead Clinician or deputy) jointly consider nature and timing of examination required with reference to:

- Illness or injury
- Timing of forensic samples
- Presence or absence of signs
- Safety of child/sibling
- Historical nature of any allegation
- Consent and legal issues

### Non Sexual Abuse

### Sexual Abuse

Doctor (Lead Clinician or deputy) arranges medical examination\*

Depending on the location and nature of the examination required this may involve:

Paediatric/Forensic Medical Examination  
(Single or joint examination)  
Lead Clinician / Police Surgeon (single or joint examination) or jointly with  
Consultant Paediatrician / other relevant  
Consultant e.g. gynaecology, orthopaedics

Comprehensive Medical Assessment  
Lead Clinician Child Protection, Paediatrician or GP

\*The Lead Clinician Child Protection and Consultant Paediatrician may be contacted at any stage in this process through the switchboard Western Isles Hospital 01851 704704.

Doctor (Lead Clinician or deputy) facilitates arrangements for medical examination:

Contact NHS Highland  
Consultant on-call for Child Protection  
Raigmore Hospital, Inverness  
01463 70 4000

Contact NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde  
Consultant on-call for Child Protection  
Yorkhill, Glasgow  
0141 201 0000

Contact Patient Travel\*  
01851 702997 or air ambulance transport if scheduled flights clinically inappropriate e.g. urgent or OOH transfer.

\*Travel and accommodation arrangements should be for the whole party.



## TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION AGREEMENT

**The "tripartite discussion" is a discussion between a social worker, police officer and member of the child protection health team. Normally this would be the Lead Clinician Child Protection.**

To comply with Protecting Children: A Shared Responsibility - Guidance for Health Professionals in Scotland (SE 2000) and GIRFEC Getting it Right for Every Child (2007), a tripartite discussion will take place for **ALL** Child Protection Investigations to ensure children have their health needs assessed.

Police / Social work joint investigation team will contact the Lead Clinician (or deputy) following the initiation of **ALL** CP investigations.

The Lead Clinician will:

- provide advice on the type of health assessment/examination required
- co-ordinate the gathering of relevant health information
- co-ordinate assessment of the child/rens needs
- arrange any CP medicals

The above will run parallel to the CP Investigation by SW and Police

The Tripartite Discussion may be by telephone or face to face contact. This should be agreed with the investigating team

### Note

The definition for a tripartite discussion will be when a CP investigation has commenced. However, it is acknowledged that where necessary it may be undertaken in other child welfare situations.

This does not replace the initial referral discussion nor information gathering from health as part of the investigative process

### **Contact Details**

Lead Clinician Child Protection 01851 704704  
Senior Nurse Child Protection 01851 704704

### Out of hours

On call doctor Child Protection 01851 704704  
Police Surgeon GPs 01851 702222



December 2008