

THE MEDICAL EVALUATION OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

VFPMS Seminar 2024

The Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne

DAY 1:

Wednesday 24th July

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
8:30 – 9:00	Welcome and registration	Introduction
9:00 – 9:20	The medical evaluation of suspected child abuse. What can I expect to learn from this seminar?	Anne Smith
9:20 – 10:00	What do we know about child abuse and neglect?	Emma Turton
10:00 – 10:30	Practicing medicine safely. Confidentiality, information sharing and the importance of good record keeping. Consent for medical procedures. When am I meant to NOT simply ask the kid's Mum?	Anne Smith
10:30 – 10:50	Morning tea	The Victorian system
10:50 – 11:30	Looking forward, looking back: Sentinel injuries and clinical prediction tools. When can AI help?	Anne Smith
11:30 – 12:30	Roles and responsibilities: How the system works. What happens when "a report" is made?	Tim Druce and Jo Tully
12:30 – 12:45	Q&A	
12:45 – 1:30	Lunch	Psychological harm
1:30 – 2:10	The neurobiology of child maltreatment	Gemma Sinclair
2:10 – 2:55	Factitious and Induced illness / Medical Child Abuse	Maryanne Lobo
2:55 – 3:15	Afternoon tea	
3:15 – 3:45	Violence in the home (Family violence & child abuse)	Gemma Sinclair
3:45 – 4:15	The forensic investigation of emotional abuse	Anne Smith
4:15 – 5:00	Burns scalds and other thermal injuries	Maryanne Lobo
FINISH DAY 1		

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DAY 2:

Thursday 25th July

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
8:00 – 8:30	Room open and sign in	Skin
8:30 – 9:30	Forensic interpretation of skin injury Skin Part 1: Bruises, the most common childhood injury Accidents, assault & mimics.	Trusha Brys
9:30 – 9:45	Skin Part 2: Lacerations, abrasions and human bites.	Jo Tully
9:45 – 10:30	The forensic evaluation of child neglect	Anne Smith
10:30 – 10:50	Morning tea	Head injury
10:50 – 11:50	Abusive head trauma: Mechanisms, myths and mysteries.	Trusha Brys
11:50 – 12:45	Head and spine injury: Radiological investigations & findings.	Padma Rao
12:45 – 1:30	Lunch	Child and Adolescent Sexual Abuse
1:30 – 2:00	Child Sexual Abuse: Epidemiology, Trends, Laws, Harms & Long term consequences	Claire Butler
2:00 – 2:30	How to evaluate children's sexualised behaviour	Andrea Smith
2:30 – 3:00	Technology Facilitated Sexual Assault	Jo Tully
3:00 – 3:20	Afternoon tea	Genital findings
3:20 – 4:15	Genital examination when sexual abuse is suspected. When, where, why and how?	Andrea Smith
4:15 – 4:45	Children's genitals. What do paediatricians need to know?	Jo Tully
4:45 – 5:00	Sample collection from CSA victims: Principles and guidelines.	Andrea Smith
FINISH DAY 2		

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DAY 3:

Friday 26th July

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
7:45 – 8:00	Room open and sign in	Fractures & internal injuries
8:00 – 9:00	Fracture mechanisms, patterns & estimates of age Investigation strategies	Jo Tully
9:00 – 9:30	Conditions associated with a propensity to fracture	Alyce Horstman
9:30 – 10:00	Internal, invisible but not insignificant: Internal injuries (+ strangulation)	Jo Tully
10:00 – 10:20	Morning tea	How to provide a medical opinion
10:20 – 10:45	How to write a useful medicolegal report. What to say, what not to say & how to word opinions.	Anne Smith
10:45 – 11:15	Tips for testifying	Anne Smith
11:15 – 11:30	Short Break	Practice session: My opinion is...
11:30 – 12:15	Quiz	Anne Smith
12:15 – 1:15	Ten top tips & ten tricky traps Practice wording opinions	Case Examples: Facilitators Anne Smith & Jo Tully
1:15 – 1:25	Reflections and Feedback	
FINISH DAY 3		