

MALTREATMENT

This domain is concerned with the maltreating behavior and immediate effects on a child. It considers what is occurring or has occurred and what the results are (e.g., hitting, injuries, lack of supervision, etc.). The assessment of this domain also results in a finding/identification of maltreatment (as in an allegation or verification of the alleged maltreatment). This question is typically the focus of most hotline reports and investigations. So, it is very important part of an investigation and assessment point in evaluating child safety. However, relying **only** on information from this domain is significantly inadequate for determining safety.

Information used in this assessment domain includes:

- Type of maltreatment
- Severity of maltreatment
- Description of specific events, precipitating
- Patterns, duration, frequency escalation
- Description of emotional and physical symptoms
- Description of the child and maltreating caregiver

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What is the extent of the maltreatment? (not all inclusive)

- Abandonment
- Medical care needed and not sought
- Diagnosable malnutrition-Failure to Thrive
- Chronic lack of supervision
- Inadequate shelter-dangerous, condemned, infested
- Emotional deprivation-severe/no expectation, condemnation, rejection/coldness
- Significantly poor hygiene creating health or other hazard
- Kicking, Biting, Hitting, Throwing
- Fracture/broken bones
- Shaking, especially young children
- Sexual abuse, sexual battery, sexual exploitation
- Intercourse with a child; Pornography of a child
- Bizarre discipline practices
- Sexually transmitted diseases (age dependent)
- Internal injuries
- Masturbation/exposure involving a child
- Fondling, oral sex, anal sex
- Family violence or domestic violence
- Human sexual trafficking or child labor trafficking
- Asphyxiation
- Inflicted burns or burns resulting from blatant disregard
- Failure to protect
- Substance misuse posing danger to a child
- Death of a child due to Abuse/Neglect/Abandonment

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