

Child Protective Services: Investigation

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2104.11 Contact With Children

Requirement

- Interview and observe separately each allegedly maltreated child within the assigned response time (see 2104.12 and 2104.13). Make every attempt to make the interview setting a private location where the child can be interviewed alone;
- Interview and observe every child alleged to be maltreated and all other children living in the household with the alleged maltreater;
- Observe all reported injuries, and, whenever possible, photograph all observed injuries;
- Determine whether a child found to have **any** injury has any additional injuries that are not immediately apparent (e.g. injuries hidden under long sleeves, pants; torso injuries);
- ✓ **Undress infants under age one year to determine whether there are any physical signs of child maltreatment.**
- ✓ Undress children four years and under, who are the subject of physical abuse allegations, to identify any physical signs of child maltreatment.
- Interview other children who have come under the alleged maltreaters direct care.
- Contact all significant parties (i.e. mother, father, other guardian) who were not seen within the initial response time as soon thereafter as possible.
- Interview other children who have been under the direct care of the alleged maltreater; biological children; step-children; foster children; day care children; children in the home to visit a non-custodial parent. Request that other counties or states interview children not accessible to the investigator. An exception to interviewing all children in the direct care of the maltreater may occur for school or day care settings (See [2106.3c](#)).
- Document (including photographic evidence) that at-risk children have been seen within the response time in the CPS case record ([see Documentation Chapter 80.1](#)). This may be a copy of the police report in counties where protocol provides for law enforcement to meet this response.

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Procedures/Practice Issues

Consider asking the parent's assistance when undressing a young child; and,

Photographs are documentation of conditions in a home and of visible injuries to a child. They are a graphic means of supporting, in court, testimony of what was observed. It is difficult for a parent to deny a description of home conditions or of a child's injuries when these are supported by photographs.