

PRACTICE #1: SAFETY INDICATORS

A report came in on 4-month-old child because they came to the pediatrician office for x-rays. The hospital found 5 rib fractures. The parents have no explanation except the child has been coughing hard the last couple days and must have fractured his ribs due to the coughing. The parents are the only caretakers of the child. The child does not attend daycare and hasn't been with anyone except the parents. The hospital is making a report that the injury is clearly non-accidental trauma.

PRACTICE #2: SAFETY INDICATORS

Mother was found to have been driving intoxicated in the car with her 3-year-old child. Mother lost control of the car and it rolled over into a ditch. The car was totaled in the accident. Fortunately, both the mother and child suffered no injuries in the accident.

PRACTICE #3: SAFETY INDICATORS

Upon a visit to the doctor's office, the pediatrician found evidence of sexual abuse of a 3-year-old girl that would have happened in the last few days. The girl visited with her maternal grandmother two weeks ago but has not been in the care of anyone except her mother and her boyfriend since then. Both deny any sexual abuse had occurred. They said they would take her to a different doctor and in the meantime will continue to care for her together.

PRACTICE #4: SAFETY INDICATORS

Worker observed bruising on a 7-year-old's arms and legs. Mother said she hit her child with a belt because he wasn't listening. Historical information on the case shows that the mother had previously been charged with a prior child death of her own child 12 years ago as a result of abuse and neglect.