Organizing for Change: Strengthening Child Abuse Medical Care in NYS

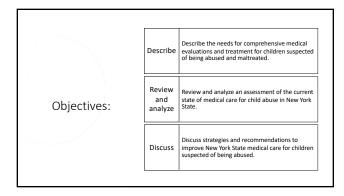
Ann S. Botsch, MD SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Division Director, Child Abuse Pediatrics Upstate Golsano Children's Hospital, Department of Pediatrics 10.16.24

Disclosures



I have no financial relationships with ineligible companies.

This work was funded by The New York State Office of Children and Family Services The New York State Department of Health

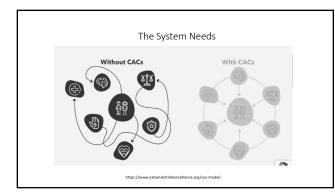


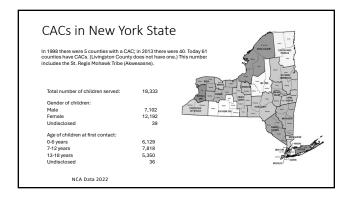


#### Child Advocacy Centers

Per the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention:

Children's Advocacy Centers coordinate the investigation, treatment, and prosecution of child abuse cases by utilizing multidisciplinary teams of professionals involved in child protective and victim advocacy services, law enforcement and prosecution, and physical and mental health.





## Child Advocacy Center Components

- Child-appropriate facility.Multidisciplinary team.
- Designated legal entity responsible for program and fiscal operations. Culturally competent policies and practices.
- Forensic interviews conducted in an objective, nonduplicative manner.
- Medical evaluation and treatment.
- Therapeutic intervention.
- Victim support/advocacy.Case review and tracking.
- Prevention.



#### Video: Information about Medical Services

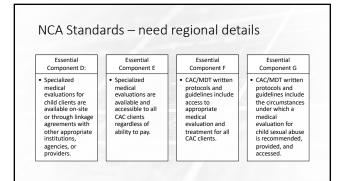
- Ensure patients/families understand medical services Medical providers may not always be available to explain
- Dana Kaplan, MD, CHAMP faculty member, created this informative overview for CACs in NYS - a 3-minute video.
  - Designed to prepare, reassure and inform patients and families who are at the CAC for a medical evaluation
  - · Download the video that also provides closed captioning https://upstate.video.yuja.com/V/Video?v=11267081&node=50138863&a=195410176 .

#### True or False

Accredited CACs are required to have clinical space for examinations of children who are suspected of being sexually abused.

#### FALSE

Essential Component D: Specialized medical evaluations for child clients are available on-site or through linkage agreements with other appropriate institutions, agencies, or providers.



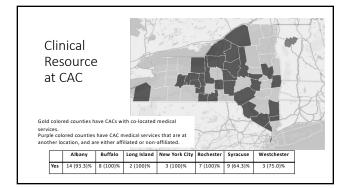
#### Essential Component F

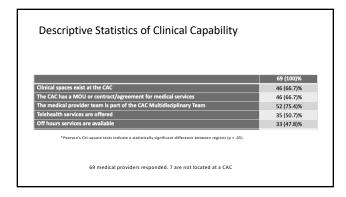
CAC/MDT written protocols and guidelines include access to appropriate medical evaluation and treatment for all CAC clients.

- Sexual Abuse
   Physical Abuse (bruises, corporal punishment, AHT, other)
   Neglect
- Medical Child Abuse

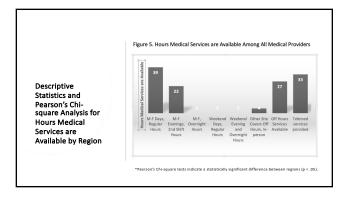
- Trafficking
  Burns
  Foster care/Kinship care

- Poster Care/Aniship Care
   Homeless/runaway youth
   Domestic violence (children)
   Children with disabilities
   Children in juvenile detention centers
   Children in mental health facilities









What is the medical training requirement to perform an initial child abuse exam?

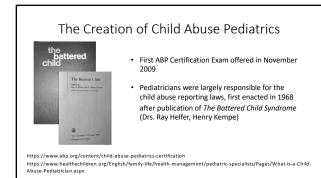
National Childre Standards	en's Alliance Medical
Essential Component A	CAP sub-board eligibility or certification     CAPs without sub-board eligibility, APPs or PAs     SANE
Essential Component B	Continuing education in the field of child abuse (8 hrs/q 2yrs)     Teaching experience (CME) in the area of child abuse
Essential Component C	All abnormal findings must be peer reviewed by an advanced medical consultant
https://www.nationalchil	/ drensalliance.org/ncas-standards-for-accredited-members/

	Provider	Education	Recommended Additional Training pe NCA
ChildAbuseMD Triage Chapter	Physicians Child Abuse Pediatrician*	Undergraduate Degree     dysars of Medical School     years of Residency     years of Residency     a years of Child Abuse Fellowship Sub-Board     certification or eligibility in Child Abuse     Pediarks	No additional training requirements
An advanced medical consultant is a Child Abuse Pediatrician, Physician or Advanced Practice Nurse who: • Has met the minimum	Physicians Pedistrics Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine, or other specialties	Undergraduate Degree     4 years of Medical School     3 years of Residency     1-3 years of Residency	16 hours of formal didactic training in the medical evaluation of Child Sexual Abuse
training outlined for a CAC provider (see above)	Advance Practice Nurse (APRN), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP)	Undergraduate Degree 2 years of Graduate School Certification Exam	16 hours of formal didactic training in the medical evaluation of Child Sexual Abuse
<ul> <li>Has performed at least 100 child sexual abuse</li> </ul>	Physician's Assistant (PA)		
<ul> <li>examinations</li> <li>Is current in CQI requirements (continuing education and participation in expert review on their own cats review on their</li> </ul>	Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner** and Sexual Assault Portensic Examiner*** - Aduk and Pediatric	Nursing Degree (RN or BSN) Licensure Exam Aduit and/or pediatric and adolescent SNME training consistent with IAFN guidelines Competency Based Clinical Preceptorship Providers who have completed SNME training and preceptorship may also choose to apply for SNME A and/or SNME certification by IAFN.	40 hours of formal didactic training in the medical evaluation of Child Sexual Abuse Competency Based Clinical Preceptorship

## Example Referral

A 5-year-old female spontaneously discloses to her mom that sexual abuse occurred over a year ago by mom's ex-boyfriend who now lives out of state. The girl has no physical complaints. The mom calls you. Which of the following is your best next step?

- A. Refer the patient to the emergency department.
- B. Refer the mom to the local police.
- C. Call Child Protective Services.
- D. Give the mom the number for the local CAC.
- E. Call the local medical program or clinic.



## From Pediatrician to Pediatric Specialists



# CAP Fellowships in NYS

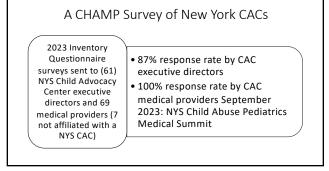
Maimonides Health Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship

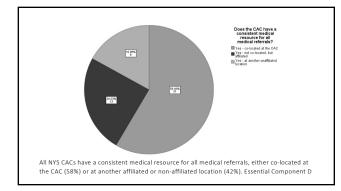
Ingrid Walker-Descartes, MD, MPH, MBA, FAAP, Director, Center for Vulnerable Children
 Luisa Vaca Condado, BA, Fellowship Coordinator

https://maimo.org/medical-education/fellowship-programs/child-abuse-pediatrics-fellowship/

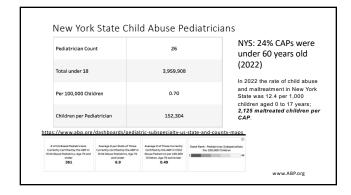
Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship

- Alicia Pekarsky, MD, Fellowship Director
- Co-Medical Director McMahon Ryan Child Advocacy Center
- JoAnne Race, MSc, Fellowship Coordinator
- https://www.upstate.edu/pediatrics/education/cap-fellowship/index.php

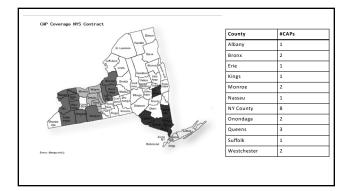


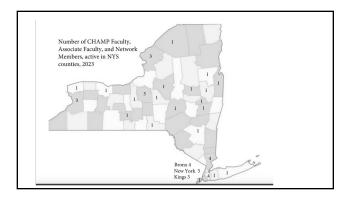












Descriptive Statistics and Pearson's Chi-square Analysis for Scope of Practice by Region	Albany	Buffalo	Long Island	New York City	Rochester	Syracuse	Westchester	p-value
Sexual Abuse Evaluation included in scope of CAC medical practice	17 (100)%	8 (100)%	2 (100)%	10 (100)%	6 (66.7)%	14 (100)%	7 (100)%	.003*
Physical Abuse Evaluation included in scope of CAC medical practice	2 (11.8)%	8 (100)%	2 (100)%	10 (100)%	5 (55.6)%	4 (28.6)%	1 (14.3)%	<.001*
Neglect included in scope of CAC medical practice	2 (11.8)%	7 (87.5)%	1 (50.0)%	8 (80.0)%	2 (22.2)%	2 (14.3)%	0 (0)%	<.001*
Medical Child Abuse included in scope of CAC medical practice	2 (11.8)%	7 (87.5)%	1 (50.0)%	7 (70.0)%	5 (55.6)%	1 (7.1)%	0 (0)%	<.001*



cope of Practice	Solo CAP	Group CAP	SPHP	Other	p-value
Sexual Abuse	20 (100)%	9, (100)%	21 (100)%	9 (100)%	N/A^
Physical Abuse	12 (60.0)%	9 (100)%	1 (4.8)%	7 (77.8)%	<.001*
Neglect	9 (45.0)%	1 (11.1)%	1 (4.8)%	5 (55.6)%	.004*
Medical Child Abuse	8 (40.0)%	6 (66.7)%	0 (0)%	6 (66.7)%	<.001*

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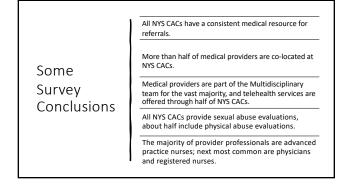
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NYS C	overage
Cohort	Counties assigned to Cohort
Solo CAP	Albany, Bronx, Erie, Niagara, Dutchess, Sullivan, Orange, Rockland, Putnam, Westchester, Kings, Queens, Suffolk, Nassau, Richmond, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, Cattaraugus, Allegany, Steuben
Group CAP	New York, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oswego, Monroe, Wayne, Ontario, Yates, Seneca
SPHP	Broome, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, Rensselaer, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Tioga, Chenango
Other	Chautauqua, Livingston, Warren, Washington, Ulster, Chemung, Schuyler, Tompkins, Cortland

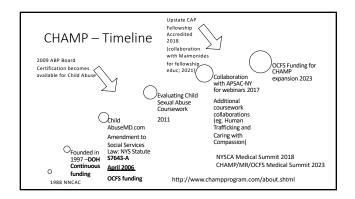
Most surveyed medical providers, 38 (71.7%) do not include an evaluation for neglect within their practice

Most surveyed medical providers, 36 (67.9%) do not include an evaluation for medical child abuse within their practice



Collaborations	Medical Provider Part of MDT	Co- Located	Non-Co- Located	Total
	Yes	31 (100)%	21 (95.5)%	52 (98.1)%
	No	0 (0)%	1 (4.5)%	1 (1.9)%



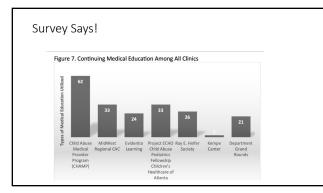


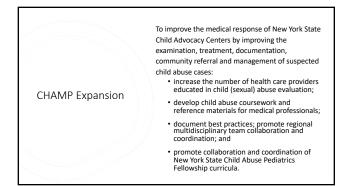


# CHAMP Programming

- Thursday virtual sessions—facilitation of discussions among CHAMP experts
- 6 webinars per year (with CME)
- Mentorships physicians, APPs, PAs
- Child abuse information to medical providers through the websites http://www.champprogram.com/and http://www.childabusemd.com/that have had nearly six million visitors since their launch.
- Downloadable PDFs of NYS CHAMP Practice Recommendations and Guidelines.
- Coursework and case-based questions
  - Evaluating Child Sexual Abuse (ECSA); Child Abuse Reporting; Adolescent Sexual Assault: Consent Issues; Fractures; Trafficking of Children

  - Test Your Knowledge; What Would You Do?



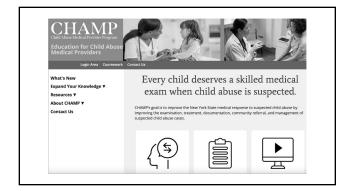


## CHAMP Expansion

- Utilize the expertise of the board-certified child abuse pediatricians who serve as CHAMP Faculty for input and to build systems and educational components (practice recommendations)
- Survey medical providers and CACs about their medical services, staffing, medical peer review process and education needs. The results of this survey will inform the process and the products of this project
- Improve website and communication
- Standardize education (curricular materials for all levels of learners and fellowship expansion)
- Create collaborations across the state among medical providers, including for educational purposes and case reviews

Every child deserves a skilled medical exam when abuse is suspected.







# CHAMP website Reviewed, Updated and New Topics

Test Your Knowledge

- All 24 reviewed and updated
- An additional ~25 questions to be added this year

Practice Recommendations

Newest Update: Triage in Suspected Child and Adolescent Sexual Abuse or Other Sexual Offenses



Topics (as related to Child Abuse and Maltreatment)	Presenter
Abusive Head Trauma	Vince Palusci, MD
Burns	Heather Ross, MD/Jamie Hoffman Rosenfeld, MD
Disabilities	Lori Legano, MD
Femur Fractures	Jamie Hoffman Rosenfeld, MD
Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)	Ingrid Walker Descartes, MD
Sentinel Injuries	Alicia Pekarsky, MD
Sexual Abuse	Ann Lenane, MD
Skull Fractures	James Metz, MD



## Updating the ChildAbuseMD Site

- CHAMP Faculty
- SUNY Upstate Bioethics and Humanities Faculty
  - Amy Caruso Brown, MD Sarah Reckess, JD
  - Elizabeth Bowen, PhD
- Janet F Rosenzweig MS, PhD, MPA
- Lawrence Ricci, MD
- Steven Blatt, MD

## Change and growth of our learners

- "Replacing language such as STI/STD with more open and less stigmatized phrasing"
- "Teach others of the value of focusing on trauma-informed care"
- "[Need for] system wide monitoring of missed child abuse"
- "Request scene investigations early in the process"
- "Better management in notifying parent/guardian of reporting and why
- "Awareness of discussion needed for sexual norms and development" - "Change in education about "good" touch, "bad" touch and privacy vs
- secrecy'

These are highlights of comments from 2022-23 webinars

## The September 9, 2023, Child Abuse Medical Summit Topics and Facilitators

#### Sexual Abuse

Group #1: Madhu Voddi, MD CAC Follow-up following an emergency dept visit for SA (who decides if/when f/u needed) Group #3: Lori Legano, MD 16 yo refusing exam –is the CAC most appropriate place?

Physical Abuse

Group #2: James Metz, MD Physical abuse examinations at the CAC (who decides if/when exam) Group #4: Alicia Pekarsky, MD Diagnosis of physical abuse (not) made in the ED -who should make the dx?

Group #5: Iram Ashraf, MD Past sexual abuse –who decides if exam not needed? Group #8: Jennifer Clarke, MD Use of peer review for normal/abnormal exams

Group #6: Dana Kaplan, MD Use of telehealth for evaluation of bruises (PA); other options for medical eval?

Group #7: Elizabeth Murray, DO, MBA Who triages the physical abuse cases to the ED vs

Each group developed a consensus statement.

# Nursemaid's Elbow

A 5-month-old patient is seen in the Emergency Department after a reported fall. The patient was diagnosed with a nursemaid's elbow, but per the ED is stable and is successfully reduced. They call in a case to CPS per protocol given the age and indicate that the history is consistent with the injury.



## Consensus Statement

Healthcare providers require specific training and ongoing professional development in the field of child abuse pediatrics. The diagnosis of child abuse should ultimately be considered by these experts

- Exceptions (when case is "clear cut")
  When there is a concern for abuse, all children should have a CAP
- should have a CAP evaluation. • Anyone concerned about abuse should report it • Education should include communication skills (to
- hotline)NYS Peer Review process

## Peer Review in NYS?

- Who is reviewing for NYS providers now?
- What are the steps when a provider "happens" to review the material from another provider, can we give feedback?
- New York State CQI can we create a sustainable process?

## A 3-month-old with possible physical abuse

A case has been called into CPS regarding possible physical abuse of a 3-month-old male. This has triggered a CAC response. The CPS caseworker states she and the patient are on their way to the CAC for emergent medical assessment.

#### **Consensus Statement**

- Determining the need for medical evaluations and potential triage to the emergency department should be a collaborative decision based on necessity, involving the medical team at the designated child advocacy center.
- All infants should be evaluated at a medical facility.
- Need to identify counties who lack resources and organize a referral stream.

#### Physical Abuse

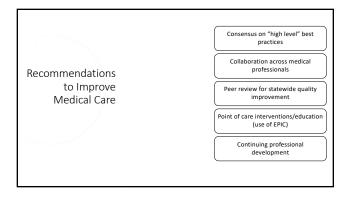
- Determine the number/proportion of physical abuse cases within your community.
- Map out the existing process for the response and intervention in reported cases of physical abuse cases.
- The MDT should consider how to assess if the medical representative for their team has the necessary capacity and availability to provide quality expertise for the MDT.
- The medical representative is willing to serve the team by routinely participating in MDT case review meetings and can appropriately access the necessary records and documentation.

https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/child-physical-abuse-guide

#### Medical Protocol Template

- Student project
   – reviewed 11 protocols from NCA accredited NY sites
- Findings- varied formats
- Mostly sexual abuse
- · Questions that arose at our summit were often not addressed (who and where to see children?)
- Template sample is going to be circulated and posted in our CAC workroom

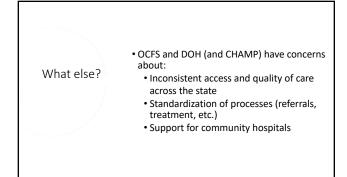
Protocol Template for Medical Assessments at Child Advocacy Centers		
1. Reinf Interduction to C	ac.	
a. Name		
b. Location		
	nents with other facilities to er facilities (NCA standard	
2. Medical Evaluation P.		
	una, ensure health and sal	
	ent of medical conditions,	
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wellbeirg, and other o	eamples as per CHAMP's T	op Ten Reesons.
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#### September Summit Summary

- Most sexual abuse exams are non-urgent and should be offered an exam by a trained medical provider (issues: resources, collaborations, aspirational goals, telehealth)
- Need to focus on training of health providers to identify concerning injuries; identify when not a clearcut abuse situation (refer)
- Develop a protocol for patient refusals for medical exams (dependent on resources, acute, non-acute, other), ideally with medical input
  All infants (under certain age, 3 at Upstate) with injuries should be evaluated for PA; identify counties with no resources or referral options
- Ideas for peer review (Zoom, real-time expertise, addressing discovery concerns). Peer review is a crucial and necessary part of SA exams (100% of abnormals).
- Advocate for "tele-court"

# How do we develop and maintain necessary medical team skill sets?



Plan: Create educational content targeting NCA standards for the CHAMP expansion project to share with NYS CACs to help each CAC with the accreditation process.

#### How CHAMP Will Address the Issues

- Identify areas where medical teams need external support (Can judges agree to use virtual testimony for our limited experts in NYS?)
- Education- develop expertise, medical understanding among other CAC team members, provide more support for non-expert providers
- Identify point of care opportunities

#### Please join us!

<u>Next</u> <u>CHAMP</u> Webcast Presenter: Lindsey Crusan-Muse Director, St. Peter's Crime Victim Services, St. Peter's Health Partners

Co-sponsored by APSAC-NY & NY Foundling

November 13 CEUs available to mental health providers in addition to CMEs.

Topic: Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and its impact on children

# Appreciation for our Sponsors

- Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health Bernadette Dolen, MPH / Kristina Hoetker New York State Department of Health Bureau of Perinatal, Reproductive, and Sexual Health
- Office of Children and Family Services Adam Berry
   Supervisor [ CAC-MDT Unit Chair of the NYS Children's Justice Task Force
   Division of Child Weffare and Community Services
   New York State Office of Children and Family Services
- Upstate Foundation and Department of Pediatrics
   Toni Gary
   Eileen Pezzi

