

Paediatric Pearls

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Safeguarding edition edited by Nicci Wotton, Consultant Nurse for Safeguarding, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

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Monthly paediatric update newsletter for all health professionals working with children – put together by Dr Julia Thomson, Paediatric Consultant at Homerton University Hospital, London, UK. Housed at www.paediatricpearls.co.uk where comments and requests are welcome!

Child modern slavery and human trafficking

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

Modern slavery is a complex crime and may involve multiple forms of exploitation. It encompasses:

- human trafficking
- slavery, servitude, and forced or compulsory labour



Clinicians in England and Wales need to be aware of the [NRM](#) process and the linked updated guidance.

RCPCH published [practice guidelines](#) last month providing both an introduction to child modern slavery and human trafficking ([MSHT](#)) as a significant health and public health concern, and guidance on **the role of paediatricians in addressing child MSHT**. MSHT is a serious form of child maltreatment and can lead to lifelong physical, mental, emotional, developmental, and social consequences. This is a complex area of practice; all doctors are strongly advised to undertake specialist training in child MSHT, safeguarding and trauma-informed care.

National review into the deaths of Arthur and Star

In May 2022, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel published a [review](#) looking at the circumstances leading up to the deaths of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes (aged 6. Father and his partner serving prison sentences) and Star Hobson (aged 16 months. Mother and her partner also in prison now) in 2020.

The review explores why the public services and systems designed to protect Arthur and Star were not able to do so. It also looks at wider issues and evidence from serious safeguarding incidents reviewed by the Panel in the last three years.

Based on these [findings](#), the review sets out a number of recommendations to improve the child protection system in England.

Bruising in children - [TEN-4-FACES-p](#) acronym with thanks to paediatric registrar, Dr Naresh Seeboruth:

Bruising in children is the most common injury in physical abuse. Distinguishing abusive from non-abusive bruises can be challenging. This acronym is a useful clinical decision tool to screen children under the age of 4 years presenting with bruising. Naresh's poster is downloadable [here](#) for display in your ED.

TEN-4-FACES-P

Clinical decision toolkit

If bruising is observed in children in any of the below components, seek senior review

TEN Torso Ears Neck 	4 months and younger Any bruise, anywhere	Patterned bruising Bruises in specific patterns like slap, grab or loop marks
FACES Frenulum Angle of Jaw Cheeks (fleshy part) Eyelids Subconjunctivae		

TEN-4-FACES-p was developed and validated by: Clyde Pierce

'Cutting season' Summer holidays are a time when there is a higher risk that [FGM](#) will happen to girls. Studies shows that girls are more at risk of [FGM](#) being carried out during the summer holidays, as this allows more time for them to 'heal' before they return to school. The [summer holidays](#) are historically a time when adults take their daughters abroad with the intention of carrying out the procedure. Families may also come under pressure from relatives or friends in the UK or home country to have their daughters cut. Families coming for travel vaccines?

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER

Violence Reduction Programme

To support the prevention and reduction of violence in the community



Violence reduction and young people: there is a fantastic [resource](#) developed in collaboration with NHS London, NHS England, Health Education England, Peer Power UK, third sector and charitable organisations & **Dr Niamh Ni Longain**.

It's a series of modules, films and animations with young people on communication and unconscious bias, and assessments. It covers systematic issues, inequalities, poverty, contextual safeguarding, adversity trauma and resilience, the principles of trauma-informed practice, how to support and refer young people and how to be a violence reduction champion in and out of NHS work.

Liberty Protection Safeguards [consultation](#) extended to 14th July – have your say! [SCIE](#) have produced [a video](#) about the changes. [Free training](#) about the application of the Mental Capacity Act for 16 and 17 year olds.

Some videos and reviews to watch/read for your CPD:

- [Tackling Virginity Testing Myths, May 2022](#)
- [Understanding Early trauma](#)
- [Sibling Sexual Abuse: The Last Taboo?](#)
- [Review into historical safeguarding practices in Oldham](#)

The [Dog Safety Code](#) encourages everyone to be alert, aware and – be safe around dogs. Display the posters in your surgeries and digital websites.

