

Key updates June - August 2020: please circulate this briefing of updates to any relevant colleagues working across safeguarding and child protection.

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you are all well. I realise how hard everyone is working at the moment but thought you would be interested in finding out what the RCPCH and the Child Protection Standing Committee have been doing over the last few months to support work around vulnerable children.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact the Health Policy team via health.policy@rcpch.ac.uk.

Best wishes and stay safe

Alison

Alison Steele, RCPCH Officer for Child Protection.

RCPCH COVID-19 guidance

RCPCH is providing a range of [COVID-19 information and guidance](#) that is updated regularly. This includes

- [Safeguarding, child protection and looked after children processes](#)
- [Looked after Children Services in COVID recovery plans](#) – principles and standards
- [Safeguarding partnerships during the pandemic](#) – guiding principles
- [Talking to children and families about returning to school](#) – guiding principles
- [Shielding guidance for children and young people.](#)

Work of the RCPCH Child Protection Standing Committee

Below is a summary of some of the pieces of work that are currently being discussed and undertaken by the Committee:

- A range of work around Looked after Children is being carried in liaison with Coram BAAF and other partners.
- A review is being carried out of the Safeguarding SPIN module.
- The RCPCH Peer review in Safeguarding guidance is being updated.
- There is work taking place with FFLM and the RCN around CSA services.
- Ongoing work on haematology pathway with regards to investigations in possible inflicted injury.
- Implementing the expert witness in family court action plan.
- There is ongoing work on a number of publications, see section below for more details.
- A working group will be reviewing the RCPCH position statement on mandatory reporting.

Recent and Upcoming publications

Child protection portal

The recently launched RCPCH Child Protection Portal delivers trusted content for those involved in child protection. The resources include the Child Protection Companion, the Child Protection Evidence systematic reviews, as well as other complementary content and information on child protection processes.

You can find the portal [here](#). To access the Child Protection Companion you will need to log in as an RCPCH member or register for an institutional subscription,

Perplexing Presentations / FII guidance

Work on this guidance is in the final stages with an aim to publish in Autumn 2020. We apologise for the delay in publishing this guidance, however, we thought it was important to allow time for proper engagement with children's social services and the Department for Education.

Good Practice service delivery standards for the management of children referred for child protection medical assessments.

These joint CPSIG-RCPCH standards are expected to be published in Autumn 2020.

Latest Child Protection Evidence updates:

The following systematic reviews are currently being updated:

- Fractures
- Neglect
- Retinal findings
- Burns

These reviews are part of the Child Protection Evidence systematic review series available on the [RCPCH website](#).

Updates from the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine

The Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine have updated the following publications:

- Several documents to support forensic clinical practice during the period of Covid 19 accessed at www.fflm.ac.uk
- Updated guidance for intimate images that may be used for court <https://fflm.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Guidance-best-practice-management-of-intimate-images-which-may-become-evidence-in-court-Dr-B-Butler-June-2020.pdf>
- Two updated documents relating to child safeguarding <https://fflm.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Child-Safeguarding-Referral-form-Dr-B-Butler-and-Dr-N-Swift-May-2020.pdf> and <https://fflm.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Child-Safeguarding-Information-Sharing-Guidance-for-HCPs-working-in-police-custody-Dr-P-Gree-April-2020.pdf>

- Safe and Secure Handling and Supply of Medicines in Sexual Assault Services for Adults and Children <https://fflm.ac.uk/publications/safe-and-secure-handling-and-supply-of-medicines-in-sexual-assault-services-for-adults-and-children/>
- Pro forma – Paediatric Forensic Medical Examination <https://fflm.ac.uk/publications/pro-forma-paediatric-forensic-examinations/>

Licentiate in Forensic and Legal Medicine (LFFLM(SOC) [c]) via prescribed/equivalent experience.

The FFLM have set out details on a route for experienced paediatricians to be able to obtain the Licentiate in Forensic and Legal Medicine (LFFLM(SOC) [c]) via prescribed/equivalent experience. More information can be found [here](#).

Dr Caroline Jones, will be presenting a webinar covering this and answering any questions candidates may have on Wednesday 07 October at 17:00. The webinar is free to attend. Please email forenisc.medicine@fflm.ac.uk to register.

Education

Below is a list of some of the current RCPCH safeguarding e-Learning modules and virtual courses. For a full range of courses, please visit our [website](#).

RCPCH e-Learning modules

[Exploitation of children and young people](#)

[Emotional abuse and emotional neglect](#)

Virtual courses for 2020 (to be facilitated via Zoom).

[Expert witness in child protection course](#) (Level 3+, 4 and 5)

2nd and 3rd November

[Statement and report writing in Scotland](#) (Level 3)

13th November.

Stay in touch

The Child Protection Standing Committee meets three times a year and these [summaries of our minutes](#) are made available on the RCPCH website. Recently, we have started to send these summaries out to all who have updated their contact preferences on the RCPCH website to receive updates about child protection. If you wish to learn more about what we are doing, please ensure that you have done this to receive our update three times per year.

For further information please contact: health.policy@rcpch.ac.uk