

Child Abuse

Child Maltreatment: A Clinical Guide and Reference; Comprehensive Photographic Reference Identifying Potential Child Abuse, *Clinical Guide* edited by Angelo P. Giardino and Randell Alexander, *Photographic Reference* edited by Randell Alexander and Angelo P. Giardino, 3rd ed, 1128 pp (*Clinical Guide*), 549 pp (*Photographic Reference*), \$279.95, ISBN 1-878060-54-6, St Louis, Mo, GW Medical Publishing, 2005.

THE THIRD EDITION OF *CHILD MALTREATMENT* should be an excellent resource for a wide range of professionals and caregivers, including those in pediatrics, family medicine, emergency medicine, psychiatry, psychology, nursing, social service, law and law enforcement, education, and public health. These volumes should help professionals, including first responders, in diagnosis and management. The accompanying *Photographic Reference* volume is an excellent complement to the *Clinical Guide and Reference* volume.

The *Clinical Guide and Reference* has 70 new contributors and exemplifies the multidisciplinary team approach to maltreatment. New material includes risks to children from Internet use, intimate-partner violence, risks found in faith-based settings, preparing a case for court, preparing to be an expert witness, education of clinicians about child maltreatment, and research needs.

The 42 chapters are divided among seven sections: "Physical Maltreatment," "Neglect," "Sexual Maltreatment," "Psychological Maltreatment and Developmental Health Issues," "Cultures at Risk of Child Maltreatment," "Legal Aspects and Forensic Issues," and "Professional Roles in Investigation, Treatment and Prevention." Individual chapters deal with specific subjects, allowing easy access to information on specific questions.

The "Physical Maltreatment" section begins with clear definitions of child maltreatment, its epidemiology, and the major changes in management since it was first brought to the attention of clinicians and legislators by

C. Henry Kempe, MD, in 1962. The next seven chapters consider specific aspects of physical maltreatment in detail. Chapter 2 discusses skeletal and visceral radiological imaging well. However, some of the figures, especially those showing the metaphyseal corner and the ribs, are small and difficult to view. Given the wide audience, radiographs should have physical findings clearly marked. The chest radiographs are small and hard to read, and the bucket handle fracture (Figure 2-9) would benefit from an associated drawing. The chapter on head injuries gives an excellent review of the literature on falls in childhood and long-term outcomes of abusive head trauma. The chapter on bruises and burns emphasizes the difficulty of accurately dating bruises and contusions by their color and presents a good differential diagnosis of conditions that can mimic physical maltreatment. Again, arrows indicating physical findings would help in figures in the chapters on ophthalmic manifestations, oral injuries, and thoracoabdominal injuries. The "Chemically Abused Child" chapter gives a good list of presenting signs and symptoms in suspected intentional poisoning. A useful table gives references on toxic substances implicated in abuse. The chapter also presents several useful case studies illustrating diagnostic issues.

Defining neglect has been difficult and controversial. The authors of the chapter "Neglect and Abandonment" usefully provide a clear definition. The "Sexual Abuse" section gives a good overview, followed by helpful chapters on interviewing (including a table with standard interview questions), medical examination, and sexually transmitted diseases.

Chapters 15-20 provide a comprehensive review of the psychological aspects of maltreatment and the difficult issues of psychological assessment and treatment. The authors discuss

type-specific and age-specific forms of abuse, developmental issues of the young child, and psychopathology associated with abuse. They emphasize that the first treatment for abuse is to stop the abuse, and they note, "Children learn the profoundly painful psychological lesson that their body is not their own and is not to be respected." They point out that the child's response will vary with the developmental stage. The discussion of Munchausen syndrome by proxy gives some excellent illustrative case studies. Types of abuse related to food are discussed in detail. The presentation of treatment approaches is thorough and well organized by phase. There is a good discussion of various assessment tools to assist in diagnosis. The section on the stabilization and neutralization phase is especially important, as it discusses available support systems, psychological validation for the child, dispelling fear, and mending self-esteem. Chapter 20, which reviews the use of drawing for diagnosis and treatment, is fascinating, giving good examples of artistic development in normal and abused children. Case studies illustrate the diagnostic and treatment uses of drawing and of the body image outline.

More than half of reports to child protective services come from schools. Chapter 21 emphasizes the importance of the school in reporting suspected abuse, and includes a thorough discussion. The list of behavioral indicators of maltreatment observed in the school setting is useful, as are the case studies.

Chapter 22, on risks of the Internet to children, is timely. It emphasizes how easily sexual offenders and pornographers can exploit children via this medium. Preventive strategies to protect children from potential predators are

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discussed, and a useful glossary of Internet terms and online expressions is included.

Chapter 23 addresses the important subject of child maltreatment in faith-based settings, a difficult issue given the assumption of safety and trust in places of worship. Access to vulnerable children and adults can be especially difficult, and institutional secrecy can increase the child's risk of harm. The authors point out that positive trends have occurred after publicized scandals.

Child maltreatment, abuse, and neglect have existed in all cultures, probably throughout history. With new immigrant groups being seen by clinicians, the "Cultural Aspects" chapter is of increasing importance. A table presents four definitions of *culture* and includes comments that are helpful in understanding how culture can affect behavior toward children. The authors point out racial disparities in reports to child protective services and provide excellent tables illustrating the relationship of maltreatment reporting to poverty and social capital. They note that power relationships between adults and children and between groups are issues in child maltreatment. Helpful examples are provided of folk practices that may be misunderstood or misidentified as abuse.

Chapter 25 discusses children with special needs and their families, the role of the environment, and social issues, with a good review of the literature. Another overlooked group is also discussed, namely, children who have been disabled by maltreatment.

The chapter on foster care emphasizes the importance of dealing with the health issues of children in foster care and gives recommendations for the health care team. It also defines different types of substitute care.

In the chapter "Family Abduction," the authors note that kidnapping by parents exceeds all other abductions and continues to increase. Unfortunately, as they write, the "overriding motivation is revenge against the other parent and not love or concern for the

child." Some good case studies illustrate trauma to the child and to the parent from whom the child was taken. Guidelines are provided for reunion of the abducted child and family. The chapter on pediatric screening in cases of intimate-partner violence provides useful screening measures and Web sites. A table presents six questions that can be used for screening during an office visit, similar to the RADAR card used to screen for domestic violence.

Chapters 30-33 comprehensively review the many legal aspects of child maltreatment, including the role of law enforcement in the preliminary investigation, legal issues in reporting, preparing the case for hearing, and preparing for expert testimony. These chapters should be reviewed by anyone testifying for the first time, especially the practical, multidisciplinary supplemental appendixes and case studies. The authors note the public's difficulty believing that ordinary people who seem to be loving and caring parents could cause serious injury to a child.

Chapter 34 discusses the role of the medical examiner in fatal cases. The authors note that deaths from physical abuse are second in incidence only to those from sudden infant death syndrome in children 1 month through 1 year of age and only to unintentional injuries in children older than 1 year. Illustrative case studies with photographs are included.

Chapter 35, which discusses the multiagency child fatality review team, including its historical development, should be read by all health care professionals. Table 35-4, "A Nation's Shame: Fatal Child Abuse and Neglect in the US," reprinted from the US Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, is an eye-opener. The appendixes give examples of investigative reports using the Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Reporting Form, with infant diagrams that can be used to mark sites of injury.

Chapters 36-38 discuss collection of forensic evidence (listing materials needed), the history of DNA testing, the role of the multidisciplinary team in fo-

rensic cases, and interpretation of DNA testing results. The importance of proper handling of biological evidence in sexual assault cases is pointed out with sample case studies. Appendixes 31-1, "Verbal Evidence Checklist," and 37-2, "Documentation and Warrants: Prepubertal Sexual Assault Information," give further details on documentation. Two case studies illustrate the importance of the multidisciplinary team. Chapter 39 emphasizes the importance of training, not only for pediatricians and pediatric trainees but also for other medical trainees, including those in emergency medicine, family medicine, psychiatry, and nursing, especially emergency nursing.

"Prevention," the final chapter, is especially thorough. It discusses the role of the pediatrician in preventing abuse and types of prevention. Useful tables give examples of risk factors and protective factors for abuse and neglect. Practitioners will find the appendixes especially useful. Appendix 43-1 provides a good screening history, and appendix 40-2 gives an excellent screening tool for assessment and initial management. The "brief assessment for depression, substance abuse, domestic violence and discipline" is short and easy to use. Overall, there is some unavoidable duplication in the chapters on history, definitions, and diagnosis.

To suspect that physical abuse may have occurred, clinicians need to understand and identify injuries attributable to maltreatment. The *Photographic Reference* emphasizes the importance of documentation of abuse using photographs, radiographs, and drawings. The images are overwhelming, at times unbearable and impossible to accept as what humans can do their children.

The atlas has sections on "Physical Abuse" (seven chapters), "Sexual Abuse" (one chapter), "Neglect" (one chapter), "Criminal and Psychological Investigation" (three chapters), "Evaluation, Equipment and Demonstrations" (five chapters), and "Resources for Child Care Professionals" (two chapters).

The section on neglect provides examples of supervisory, environmental, and medical and nutritional neglect. It emphasizes the importance of home visitation for a child who is failing to thrive. The medical examiner contributor points out that the main involvement of the medical examiner was formerly in the evaluation of the child's death but now may be in preventing death. Many examples of suspicious injuries are given to illustrate this involvement.

The role of the police in determining whether a crime has been committed and then collecting evidence is discussed comprehensively and in detail, with good illustrations of scenes of death.

The chapter "Drawing" has excellent examples of drawings that show children's fear of illness, death, sexual abuse, interpersonal violence, and other threats. Chapter 13, on photodocumentation, is excellent and differentiates normal variants and abuse. Chapter 15 discusses equipment needed for documentation of sexual abuse and should be useful for emergency departments, where sexually abused children typically are brought for workup. Chapter 18, on prevention, discusses different programs that have been shown to have positive effects. Chapter 19 discusses resources and settings in the fields of child maltreatment and lists national and international organizations, publications, and settings.

The photographs, illustrations, and discussions in the *Photographic Reference* are comprehensive and thorough and complement the *Clinical Guide and Reference*.

The two volumes belong in libraries of medicine, nursing, law, and social work. They are a useful resource for professionals who deal with children and their families and a valuable contribution to the field of child maltreatment and neglect.

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Medical, Legal, and Social Science Aspects of Child Sexual Exploitation: A Comprehensive Review of Pornography, Prostitution, and Internet Crimes, vols 1 & 2, edited by Sharon W. Cooper, Richard J. Estes, Angelo P. Giardino, Nancy D. Kellogg, and Victor I. Vieth, 1090 pp, with illus, \$249.95, ISBN 1-878060-37-6, St Louis, Mo, GW Medical Publishing, 2005.

MEDICAL, LEGAL, AND SOCIAL SCIENCE ASPECTS OF CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION is a daunting two-volume set. Its five editors include a professor of social science (Estes), an attorney (Vieth) and three physicians. The 52 nationally and internationally known contributors represent government, law enforcement, psychiatry, social service, research, the judiciary, psychology, forensic nursing, public education, postal inspection, service units (Child Assessment Centers), sex offender assessment, and survivors.

Contributors of forewords (there are several) emphasize the practicality, expertise, focus on child exploitation, breadth, and international scope of the volumes and note the value of the case studies and descriptions of effective strategies. The authors of chapter 34 note that child sexual exploitation (CSE) is thought to be the most underreported form of child sexual abuse in general.

The first volume is descriptive, the second devoted to investigation, prosecution, prevention, and rehabilitation. Chapter subjects include the history of CSE, commercial CSE, global CSE, rape survivors' perspectives, "Medical Analysis of Child Pornography," "Child Sexual Abuse Images and Paraphilias" (17 types of paraphilia, including infantophilia, will shock even the most experienced professionals), Internet CSE, ethical issues, juvenile prostitution, street children, various medical and mental health topics, human trafficking, the proper use of medical experts, female offenders, servitude and slavery, peer support for stress and consultation, how the media can help serve children, recommendations for proper therapy, missing children, working with religious organizations, and rehabilitation.

Many of these complex subjects already have entire books devoted to them. These two encyclopedic volumes provide a ready and relatively compact resource. They are well organized and designed to be readable, with a single 4.5-in column on the left side of each 8.5-in page. Black-and-white and color photographs and charts of data are interspersed in the text. Chapters end with conclusions and one to ten pages of references dating through 2004. The chapters are well written, with most material based on research. They provide insight into topics with which all sexual abuse professionals should be acquainted. Stories by survivors of being groomed for child prostitution, pornography, and an altered lifestyle and value system are especially relevant if we are to understand reactive abuse and its long-term adverse consequences. Knowledge about technology and CSE, including international issues, such as these volumes provide, is imperative.

The volumes fulfill their goal of educating professionals about the full range of CSE. Techniques for recruiting and grooming both sexually abused and sexually exploited children overlap, and except for certain types of cyber enticement or child pornography, sexually exploited children typically also are sexually abused. Despite my experience and involvement in the field of maltreatment, I learned much from these excellent volumes and would consider my library incomplete without them.

As the authors of the chapter on commercial exploitation state, "In the past half century, and particularly in the past few years, enormous growth has occurred in the recognition, assessment and treatment of harmful sexual behavior" (p 290). This statement is substantiated by the scope and comprehensiveness of this excellent text.

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