

**When to suspect Child Maltreatment
Stakeholder Comments**

Please enter the name of your registered stakeholder organisation below. If you are a non-registered organisation we strongly advise you to register via the [NICE website](#) . If you are commenting as an individual then we recommend that you contact the [registered stakeholder organisation](#) that most closely represents your interests and pass your comments to them.

Stakeholder Organisation: London Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Name of commentator: Lyn Sugg

Order number	Document	Section Number	Page Number	Comments
	Indicate if you are referring to the Full version NICE version or the Appendices	Indicate number or 'general' if your comment relates to the whole document	Indicate number or 'general' if your comment relates to the whole document	<p>Please insert each new comment in a new row.</p> <p>Please do not paste other tables into this table, as your comments could get lost – type directly into this table.</p>

Proformas that are not correctly submitted as detailed in the line above may be returned to you

1	NICE Version	General	General	It would be useful to highlight in bold “suspect” and “consider” within the document. The specific definitions are important and this would aid readers in following the document more easily.
2	NICE version	1.1.2	Page 8	Highlight in bold the statement “No further action is not an option if maltreatment is considered”. This will emphasise the point being made.
3	NICE Version	1.1.2	Page 8	The third bullet point states “review the child at a later date....” Although reasonable, a caveat should be added that this is only an option when robust follow-up arrangements are in place and either the same clinician, or someone properly briefed, will be involved. There should be a responsibility placed on health care professionals to ensure information that abuse has previously been considered is available to other professionals and agencies that may subsequently come into contact with the child. Learning from previous investigations shows that the absence of this history can hinder the identification of abuse.
4	NICE Version	1.2.6	Page 9	This statement may benefit from some expansion or with a reference to other sources of information which would provide more specific guidance and advice for practitioners.
5	NICE Version	1.3.5	Page 11	A specific type of mark or scar which could be usefully highlighted here is those that may have been made by a buckle, inflicted during a beating.
6	NICE Version	1.4.11	Page 19	The inclusion of a child being found in an inappropriate environment would be useful.
7	NICE Version	1.4.13	Page 19	Carers being under the influence of drugs or alcohol as a reason to consider to neglect should be included.
8	NICE Version	General	General	Apart from an implicit reference within the sections on fabricated and induced illness, there is no mention of the need for healthcare professionals to be alert and aware of the propensity of some abusers to be skilled in obfuscation and manipulation of professionals. A general statement to this effect would be helpful.

Please add extra rows as needed

Please email this form to: sca@nice.org.uk

Closing date: 5 pm 10 February 2008

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