

**For leaflet “Social Assessment for Child Protection and
Multi-disciplinary Case Conference
for the Protection of Child with Suspected Maltreatment
Notes to Parents”**

Further information on case handling as well as assessment and investigation relating to child protection is as follows.

Medical Examination or Treatment

If a child requires medical examination or treatment, the social worker responsible for social assessment for child protection or related personnel will arrange for the child to attend a hospital under the Hospital Authority. The social worker may contact the doctor for direct admission of the child to a ward, with consent obtained from the parents, in order to avoid the child having to wait at the Accident and Emergency Department. The child may need to stay in a hospital for detailed examination, assessment or observation if necessary.

Temporary Care Arrangement

If the child does not require examination or treatment in a hospital but the social worker responsible for social assessment or other investigating personnel considers that it is not appropriate for the child to return home at the moment, the social worker will discuss with the parents and arrange a suitable place for the child to stay temporarily.

Assessment and Investigation Relating to Child Protection

The social worker will conduct an in-depth social assessment for child protection of the family circumstances, including having interviews with and home visits of the child and his/her family members and obtaining necessary information from personnel of organisations who have knowledge of the child and his/her family. Apart from obtaining information about the incident, the social worker will also study the circumstances of the child and his/her family members in detail, and assess the child’s risk of being harmed/maltreated, needs, difficulties and strengths of the child/family, as well as to discuss with and formulate an initial follow-up plan for them.

Other professionals may also conduct medical examination, criminal investigation or other assessments as required, such as psychological or

psychiatric assessment, etc. The related professionals will give a detailed explanation to the parents and help them understand the purpose and importance of related assessments and investigations. If the incident is serious or a criminal offence may have been committed, personnel need to refer the case to the Police for investigation, even if the parents/child may not be willing to do so.