



Who can refer a child to the C.A.R.E. clinic?

Referrals are accepted from custodial parents or guardians, primary care physicians, emergency room personnel, Department of Social Services, offices of the district attorneys, local police departments and community agencies.

How can a child get a clinic appointment?

To schedule an appointment in the clinic, call **Andrea Chiros 617-414-7425**. Appointments can only be made by the parent or legal guardian of the child. If there is a question as to whether or not an appointment is necessary, the referring party may wish to discuss the situation with the C.A.R.E. clinician. The C.A.R.E. clinician may be reached by calling 617-414-7425.

How soon will the child be seen?

Generally, we can offer an appointment within two weeks of the request. In situations of acute sexual assault, where the assault has occurred within the past 72 hours, arrangements can be made to have the child seen as soon as possible either in the clinic or pediatric emergency department.

What information is required prior to the clinic visit?

General visit information is obtained at the time the clinic appointment is scheduled. A referral from the

primary care physician is required prior to the clinic visit. The referring physician should fax in a referral to our confidential fax 617-414-3648 prior to the visit if possible.

Who should accompany the child to the evaluation?

Young children should be accompanied by two adults, if possible. One adult is needed to remain in the waiting area with the child while the other parent or responsible adult is with the staff.

What does a C.A.R.E. clinic evaluation include?

The evaluation begins with an interview where a detailed history is obtained from the parent or responsible adult. This interview takes 30 to 60 minutes. The interview is conducted with one adult while the child remains in the waiting room with the other responsible adult. Sometimes the child may need to be interviewed briefly; however, in most cases the child is not interviewed. In some cases, it may be necessary to obtain additional information through laboratory tests.

The process continues with a complete pediatric physical examination of the child. Parents are asked to be present in the examination room, unless the child is old enough and requests the examination to be in private. The examination is performed in a non-threatening manner, and does not include anything that is hurtful or invasive. Photodocumentation may occur as a part of the exam. Any photos taken are for documentation purposes and remain confidential.

The process concludes with a discussion of the examination findings and recommendations with the parent or responsible adult. The child is not present

during this portion of the visit and will be asked to remain in the waiting room with the second responsible adult. The entire evaluation takes from 60 to 90 minutes.

In cases of acute sexual assault, in which an examination is completed within 72 hours of its occurrence, a sexual assault evidence collection kit will be completed according to established protocol.

For more information about the C.A.R.E. clinic or Child Protection Team at Boston Medical Center, Please call **617-414-7425**.



The Boston Medical Center Child Protection Team (CPT) is dedicated to improving child abuse identification, child protection and prevention of child abuse and maltreatment.

The Boston Medical Center CPT is staffed with professionals from multiple disciplines who are committed to meeting the needs of the child and families in a sensitive manner. The CPT staff works cooperatively with community agencies, law enforcement personnel and the judiciary system to ensure the best possible outcome for children and families.

Boston Medical Center is a private, not for profit, 547-licensed bed academic medical center located in Boston's historic South End. The hospital is the primary teaching affiliate for Boston University School of Medicine. Emphasizing community-based care, Boston Medical Center with its mission to provide consistently accessible health services to all is the largest safety net hospital in New England.

Boston Medical Center provides a full spectrum of pediatric and adult care services from primary to family medicine advanced specialty care. Boston Medical also has the largest 24-hour Level 1 trauma center in New England.



C.A.R.E. Clinic

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Confidential fax

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On-call clinician pager

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