

Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention and Awareness Program

Bedside Nurse's Role in the Program

1. Parent(s)/guardians of infants under 1 year of age must have Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) Education in pediatrics; all parents should be offered Shaken Baby Syndrome Education in MBU, ICN 3 & 4 and NBICU.
2. Share and discuss SBS flyer "Understanding Shaken Baby Syndrome" with parent(s)/guardians.
3. Please have parent(s)/guardians watch the Shaken Baby Syndrome DVD "When Babies Cry".
4. Have parent(s)/guardians view the nurses' demonstration of the educational simulation doll that demonstrates the brain injury that occurs when infants are shaken.
5. Answer any questions parent(s)/guardians may have and/or listen to their concerns.
6. Review the study commitment letter with the parent(s)/guardians; explain that a nurse will be calling them in 6-7 months.
7. If the parent(s)/guardians agree, have the parent(s)/guardians sign the commitment letter and write in the phone numbers and information requested. If a parent/guardian does not agree to participate with the follow up phone call, ensure that a patient's sticker is on the consent form, and select "NO" on the consent for the follow-up callback, do not provide a phone number. Even if parents refuse to complete the consent form, ensure that a patient's sticker is on the consent form and write "refused" across it.
8. Save the completed consent form or the "refused" version, so it can be picked up for the follow-up phone calls.
9. In pediatrics please document on the Pediatric Nursing Discharge summary form. In the ICN and NBICU please document on the Newborn Ongoing Education ad hoc form. Document that the SBS DVD was viewed and the SBS flyer was given to the parent(s)/guardians. Also document whether the parent(s)/guardians signed or did not sign the commitment letter. This documentation can be done in the comments section on the bottom of the form.
10. Feel free to contact the Unit Based Educator for your department if you have any questions or concerns.

Script for Nurses

The following is the script for the bedside nurse to use when he or she approaches the parent(s)/guardians:

- Hello, my name is _____ and I am caring for your baby today.
- This is an "Understanding Shaken Baby Syndrome" flyer; let's review the flyer. Shaken baby syndrome is a big problem in this country. It can happen in any family and with any caregiver. With a new baby, parents can become sleep deprived and feel overwhelmed. It is very easy to get frustrated with a baby that won't stop crying even though you know you have done everything you can think of to make the baby comfortable. (The baby has been fed, changed, and is not sick). The baby is not mad at you. Remember, babies cry. It is what they do. It is OK to put the baby in his or her bed and walk away. Your baby is safe in the crib. Check on your baby about every 10 minutes. It is far better to let your baby cry in his or her crib than to shake the baby. Shaking the baby will change your baby's life and your life forever. **Please share this information with anyone else who will be caring for your baby, we have provided a Babysitter Notes page to help you share this information.**
- Let's review the commitment letter together. If you agree for the callback we will call you in about 7 months to see if you still remember this information and if you found it helpful (DVD and flyer). You'll need to complete this commitment letter. You will also need to fill in some telephone numbers where you can be reached if you agree to the callback.
- Do you have any questions?