



Slide 1 - Assessing Child Maltreatment: Overview of Sexual Abuse




A S S E S S I N G  
CHILD MALTREATMENT:

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**OVERVIEW**  
**OF Sexual Abuse**



Developed and presented by  
the Indiana Child Welfare  
Education and Training Partnership




INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

**Slide notes**

Welcome to the training on Assessing Child Maltreatment: Overview of Sexual Abuse. Developed and presented by the Indiana Child Welfare Education and Training Partnership.

## Slide 2 - Introduction to Sexual Abuse - 1

## Introduction to Sexual Abuse



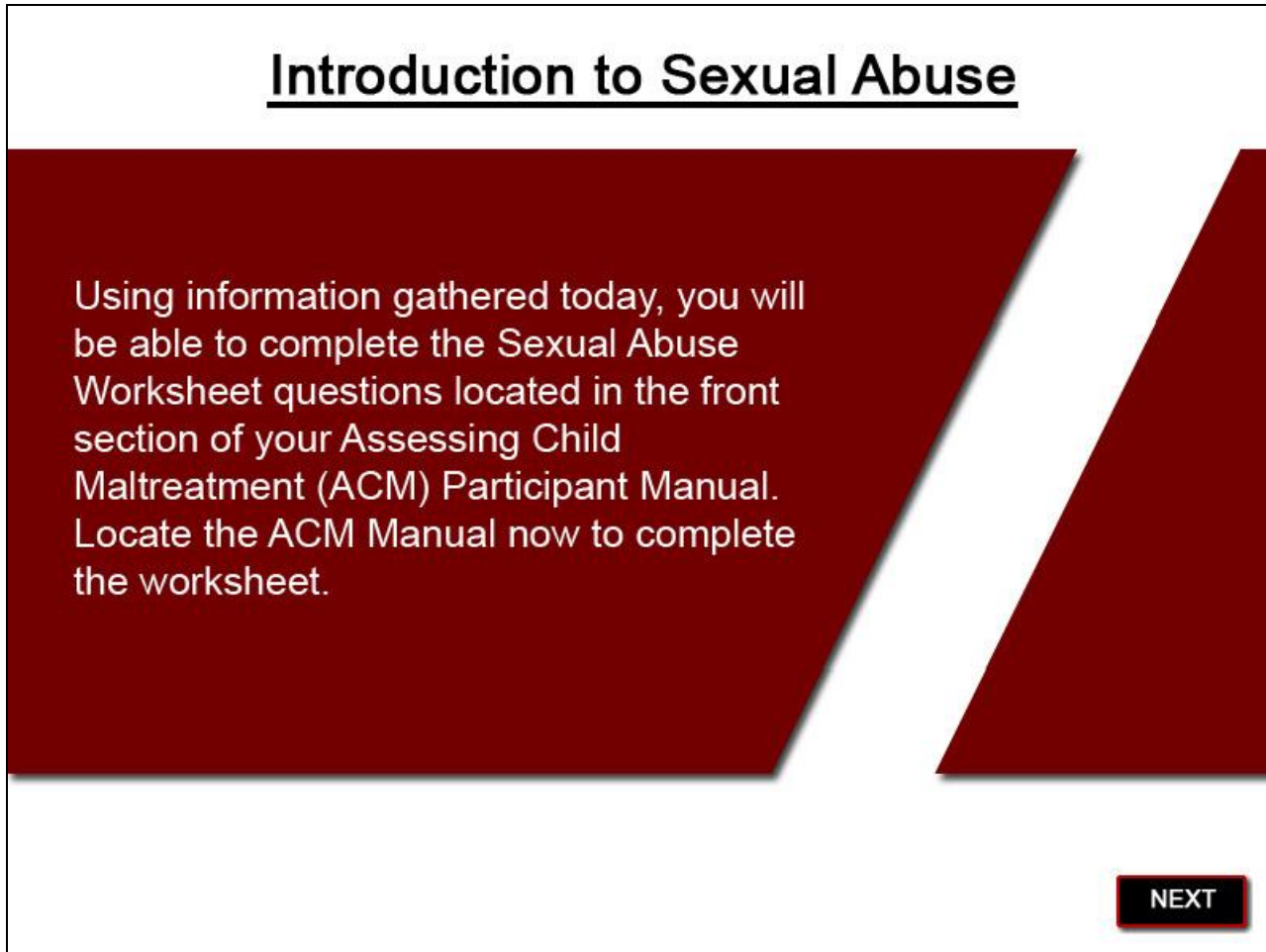
In this session, you will be introduced to categories of Sexual Abuse defined by DCS, as well as potential indicators of Sexual Abuse. In addition, you will review and print Policy Tool 3.B-Sexual Offense Child Abuse or Neglect Matrix.

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**Slide notes**

In this session, you will be introduced to categories of Sexual Abuse defined by DCS, as well as potential indicators of Sexual Abuse. In addition, you will review and print Policy Tool 3.B, Sexual Offense Child Abuse, or Neglect Matrix.

## Slide 3 - Introduction to Sexual Abuse - 2



## Introduction to Sexual Abuse

Using information gathered today, you will be able to complete the Sexual Abuse Worksheet questions located in the front section of your Assessing Child Maltreatment (ACM) Participant Manual. Locate the ACM Manual now to complete the worksheet.

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**Slide notes**

Using information gathered today, you will be able to complete the Sexual Abuse Worksheet questions located in the front section of your Assessing Child Maltreatment Participant Manual. Locate the ACM Manual now to complete the worksheet.

## Slide 4 - Sexual Abuse - 1

## Sexual Abuse

**Inappropriate sexual behavior with a child:**

- Fondling
- Intercourse
- Incest
- Rape
- Sodomy
- Exhibitionism
- Sexual Exploitation
- Exposure to Pornography



Child Welfare Information Gateway (2014) [www.childwelfare.gov](http://www.childwelfare.gov)


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According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, sexual abuse is defined as inappropriate adolescent or adult sexual behavior with a child. This includes fondling a child's genitals, making the child fondle another person's genitals, intercourse, incest, rape, sodomy, exhibitionism, sexual exploitation, or exposure to pornography.

## Slide 5 - Sexual Abuse - 2

## Sexual Abuse



Policy Tool 3.B outlines each of the categories of Sexual Abuse recognized by DCS, as well as the age guidelines for victim and perpetrator. Please click on the link to the tool to view and print it now.

[Policy Tool 3.B](#)

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Policy Tool 3.B, outlines each of the categories of Sexual Abuse recognized by DCS, as well as the age guidelines for victim and perpetrator. Please click on the link to the tool to view, and print it now.

Slide 6 - Sexual Offense CA/N Matrix

## Sexual Offense CA/N Matrix

The following chart summarizes sexual offenses that meet the statutory definition of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (CA/N):

Code	Crime	Age of Perp	Age of Victim
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-1</a>	Rape	Any	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-3</a>	Child Molesting <sup>1</sup>	Any	Less than 14
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-4</a>	Child Exploitation	Any	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-4</a>	Child Pornography	Any	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-5</a>	Vicarious Sexual Gratification	18 or older	Less than 16
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-6</a>	Child Solicitation	18 or older	Less than 14
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-7</a>	Child Seduction	18 or older	16 or 17
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-8</a>	Sexual Battery	Any	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-42-4-9</a>	Sexual Misconduct with a Minor	18 or older	14 or 15
<a href="#">IC 35-45-4-1(a)</a> <a href="#">IC 35-45-4-1(b)</a>	Public Indecency	Any 18 or older	Less than 18 Less than 16
<a href="#">IC 35-45-4-2</a>	Prostitution	Any	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-45-4-3</a>	Patronizing Prostitution	Any	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-45-4-4</a>	Promoting Prostitution	Any	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-46-1-3</a>	Incest	18 or older	Less than 18
<a href="#">IC 35-42-3.5-1</a>	Human and Sexual Trafficking	Any	Less than

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When looking at the tool, you will see the criminal offenses that meet the statutory definition of Child Abuse or Neglect. Note the Indiana Code with a link to the definition on the left, then the name of the crime, the age of the perpetrator, and the age of the victim. When DCS receives reports that contain only criminal allegations, and do not contain any of these listed offenses, the reports are screened out, or not assessed by DCS, and transferred to law enforcement.

## Slide 7 - Sexual Offense CA/N Matrix

## Sexual Offense CA/N Matrix

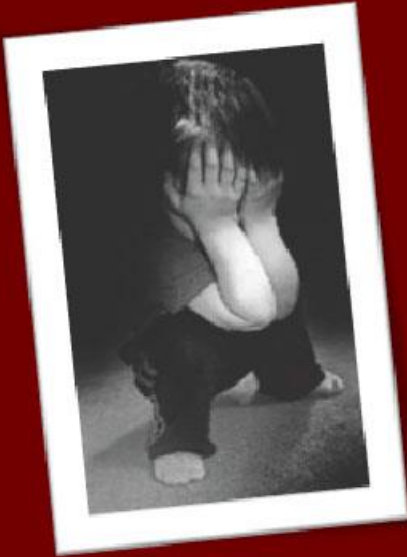
- It is important to familiarize yourself with this tool. Specifically, become familiar with...
  - Indiana Code associated with the crimes
  - Which crimes meet the statutory definition of CA/N
  - Required age of the perpetrator and victim for each crime

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While you do not need to memorize the tool, you should become familiar with it. Specifically, become familiar with the Indiana Code associated with the crimes. Which crimes meet the statutory definition of child abuse or neglect, and the required age of the perpetrator and victim for each crime.

## Slide 8 - Potential Indicators of Sexual Abuse

## Potential Indicators of Sexual Abuse



- Physical
- Emotional
- Behavioral

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When assessing for any kind of child abuse or neglect, it is important to look for physical, emotional, or behavioral indicators of sexual abuse. Presence of these indicators do not equal assurance that a child has been sexually abused, they are simply indicators for further assessment. In addition, not all children who have been sexually abused will display physical, emotional, or behavioral indicators. We are going to review potential indicators of sexual abuse.



## Slide 9 - Potential Physical Indicators of Sexual Abuse

## Potential Physical Indicators of Sexual Abuse

- Blood or fluid stains on clothing
- Difficulty sitting
- Frequent urinary tract infections
- Rash/itching/lesions/pain on the genitals or anus
- Venereal Disease
- Frequent vomiting without organic cause
- Recurring abdominal pain
- Pregnancy
- Fatigue
- Excessive masturbatory behavior
- Painful bowel movements
- Bed wetting
- Enuresis and Encopresis
- Signs of physical abuse
- Sexually Transmitted Disease

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Potential physical indicators of sexual abuse include, blood, or fluid stains on clothing, difficulty sitting, frequent urinary tract infections, rash, itching, lesions, pain on the genitals or anus, venereal disease, frequent vomiting without organic cause, recurring abdominal pain, pregnancy, fatigue, excessive masturbatory behavior, painful bowel movements, bed wetting, enuresis and encopresis, signs of physical abuse, or sexually transmitted disease.

## Slide 10 - Potential Emotional Indicators of Sexual Abuse

## Potential Emotional Indicators of Sexual Abuse

- Regression to a younger developmental stage
- Lack of affect
- Withdrawal or depression
- Anxiety or irritability
- Phobias or fears
- Feelings of helplessness
- Low self-esteem
- Obsessive ideas
- Self-hate
- Hyper Alertness
- Dissociation
- Excessive guilt

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### Slide notes

Potential emotional indicators of sexual abuse include, regression to a younger developmental stage, lack of affect, withdrawal or depression, anxiety or irritability, phobias or fears, feelings of hopelessness, low self esteem, obsessive ideas, self-hate, hyper alertness, dissociation, or excessive guilt.

## Slide 11 - Potential Behavioral Indicators of Sexual Abuse

## Potential Behavioral Indicators of Sexual Abuse

- Abrupt changes in behavior or personality
- Aggression/animal cruelty
- Excessive crying
- Over-compliance
- Decreased school performance
- Temper Tantrums
- Truancy or runaway
- Suicidal ideation, gestures, or attempts
- Self mutilation
- Flashbacks/nightmares
- Avoidance
- Social isolation
- Lack of trust
- Hyper-arousal or easily startled
- Avoidance of touch
- Fire starting
- Substance abuse
- Reluctance to undress or change in front of others

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### Slide notes

Potential behavioral indicators of sexual abuse include, abrupt changes in behavior or personality, aggression or animal cruelty, excessive crying, over compliance, decreased school performance, temper tantrums, truancy or runaway, suicidal ideation, gestures, or attempts. Self mutilation, flashbacks or nightmares, avoidance, social isolation, lack of trust, hyper-arousal or easily startled, avoidance of touch, fire starting, substance abuse. And reluctance to undress or change in front of others.

## Slide 12 - Reasons for Disclosing Sexual Abuse

## Reasons for Disclosing Sexual Abuse

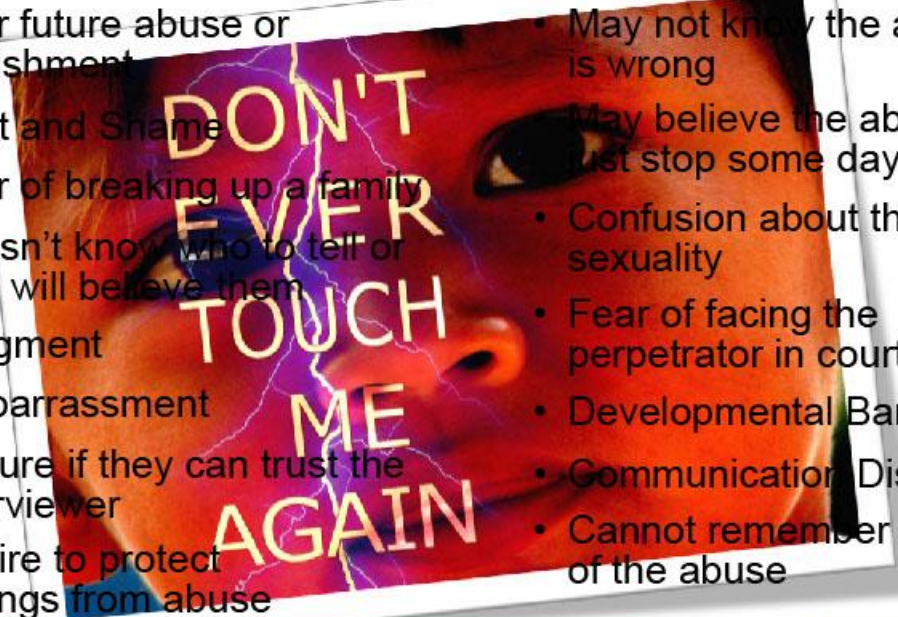
- Indicators alone do not prove sexual abuse
- Disclosure is necessary in most cases
- Disclosure is a process, not one event
- 70% of children initially deny sexual abuse

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These indicators alone are not enough to prove sexual abuse. In order to make a strong case to support any visible indicators, children usually need to disclose an event or events of sexual abuse. This disclosure is usually a process, not one specific event or interview. Approximately seventy percent of children initially deny allegations of sexual abuse.

## Slide 13 - Reasons for Disclosing Sexual Abuse

## Reasons for Disclosing Sexual Abuse

- 
- Fear future abuse or punishment
  - Guilt and Shame
  - Fear of breaking up a family
  - Doesn't know who to tell or who will believe them
  - Judgment
  - Embarrassment
  - Unsure if they can trust the interviewer
  - Desire to protect siblings from abuse
  - May not know the abuse is wrong
  - May believe the abuse will just stop some day
  - Confusion about their own sexuality
  - Fear of facing the perpetrator in court
  - Developmental Barriers
  - Communication Disabilities
  - Cannot remember details of the abuse

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### Slide notes

There are a multitude of reasons why a child may not disclose sexual abuse. They may fear future abuse or punishment, experience guilt or shame, or be afraid to break up their family. They may not know who to tell or who will believe them, may be afraid of judgment, could be embarrassed by the abuse, or unsure if they can trust the interviewer. Children often desire to protect siblings or other children from abuse. Children do not always know the abuse is wrong, or may believe it will just stop eventually. Sometimes children do not disclose, because they are confused about their own sexuality. The reason may be that they do not want to face their abuser in court. Some victims experience developmental delays or communication barriers that prevent them from disclosing. Children also fail to disclose sexual abuse because they cannot remember the details.

## Slide 14 - Reasons for Disclosing Sexual Abuse

## Reasons for Disclosing Sexual Abuse

- Angry with the perpetrator
- Family disrupted for other reasons
- Perpetrator no longer has access to child
- Discussed about the abuse
- Feels safe
- Learns that the abuse is wrong
- Others are at risk
- Abuse becomes intolerable
- Becomes pregnant
- Contracts a Sexually Transmitted Disease



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**Slide notes**

Just as there are reasons children do not disclose, there are also reasons they do tell someone. These include when a child becomes angry or upset with the perpetrator, if the family is disrupted for another reason, or if the perpetrator no longer has access to the child. Sometimes a child may disclose sexual abuse when asked about it directly, once they feel safe in a situation, or when they learn that sexual abuse is wrong. Children may disclose when they learn that others are at risk or when the abuse becomes intolerable. A child may also disclose sexual abuse if they become pregnant or contract a sexually transmitted disease.

## Slide 15 - Thank You



## Overview of Sexual Abuse: Thank You!

Categories   Policy Tool 3.B   Indicators   Disclosure

Thank you for your attention!

Developed and presented by  
the Indiana Child Welfare  
Education and Training Partnership

Designed by: Crystal Offutt

**Slide notes**

In this introductory course, you have learned about the categories of sexual abuse, the Sexual Offense Matrix in Policy Tool 3B, indicators of sexual abuse, and why children may or may not disclose sexual abuse. Before returning to class, please print Policy Tool 3.B for your reference as an FCM and complete the Sexual Abuse worksheet in your ACM Manual.

During the Assessing Child Maltreatment course, we will build on this foundational information and learn more about the thought processes, grooming patterns, and selection criteria of sexual perpetrators. Thank you for your attention during this learning module! Developed and presented by the Indiana Child Welfare Education and Training Partnership.