# Using facilitators during health care encounters

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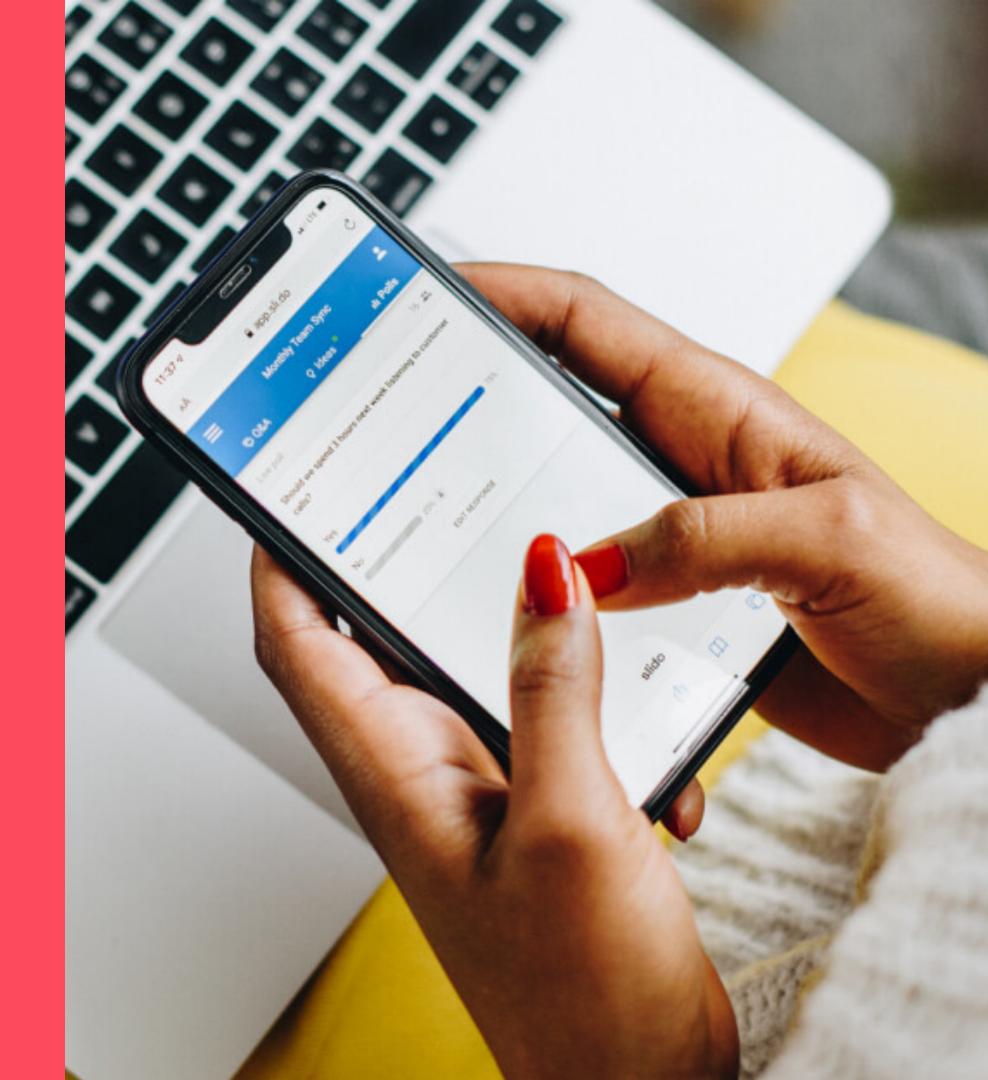
prevent + identify child abuse





### Goal:

Help us understand how introducing a child safety care model changed the management for two clinical scenarios in our setting...





### Just remember...

- ✓ There are no right or wrong answers.
- Answers might depend on your own barriers and facilitators.
- ✓ All scenarios have been altered in accordance with GDPR.





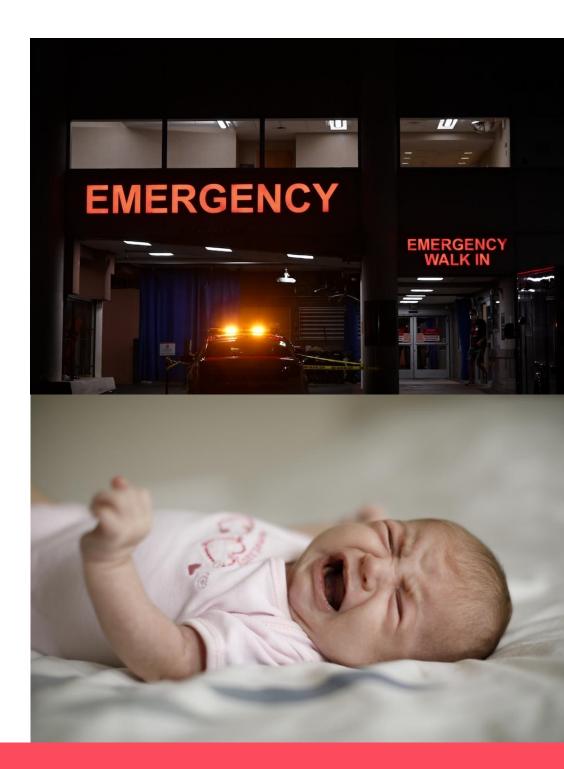
### "Panic on the kitchen-counter"



## 1<sup>st</sup> Clinical Scenario: "Panic on the kitchen-counter"

- > 2 months old girl
- Pediatric Emergency Department afterhours
- Evaluated by Pediatric Surgery Resident
- Fresh splash-burn on chest and upper arm



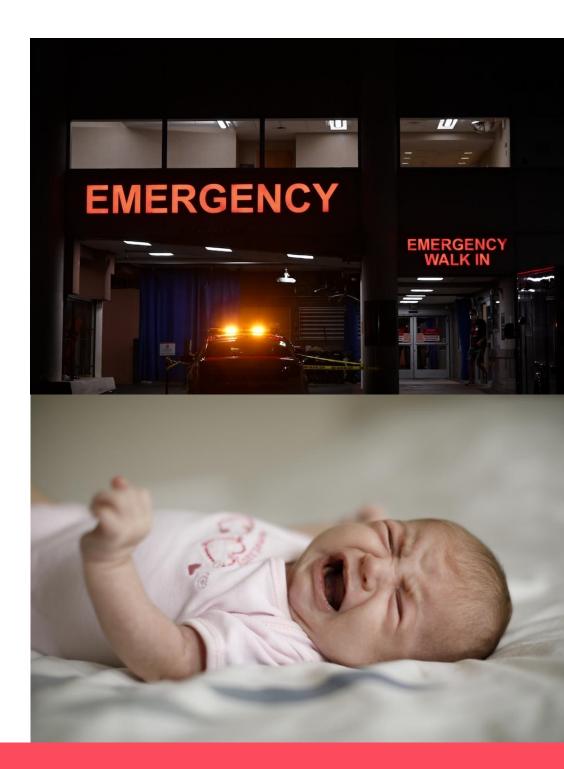


### 1<sup>st</sup> Clinical Scenario: "Panic on the kitchen-counter"

Family was given burn care instructions

Booked follow-up appointment 48hrs later

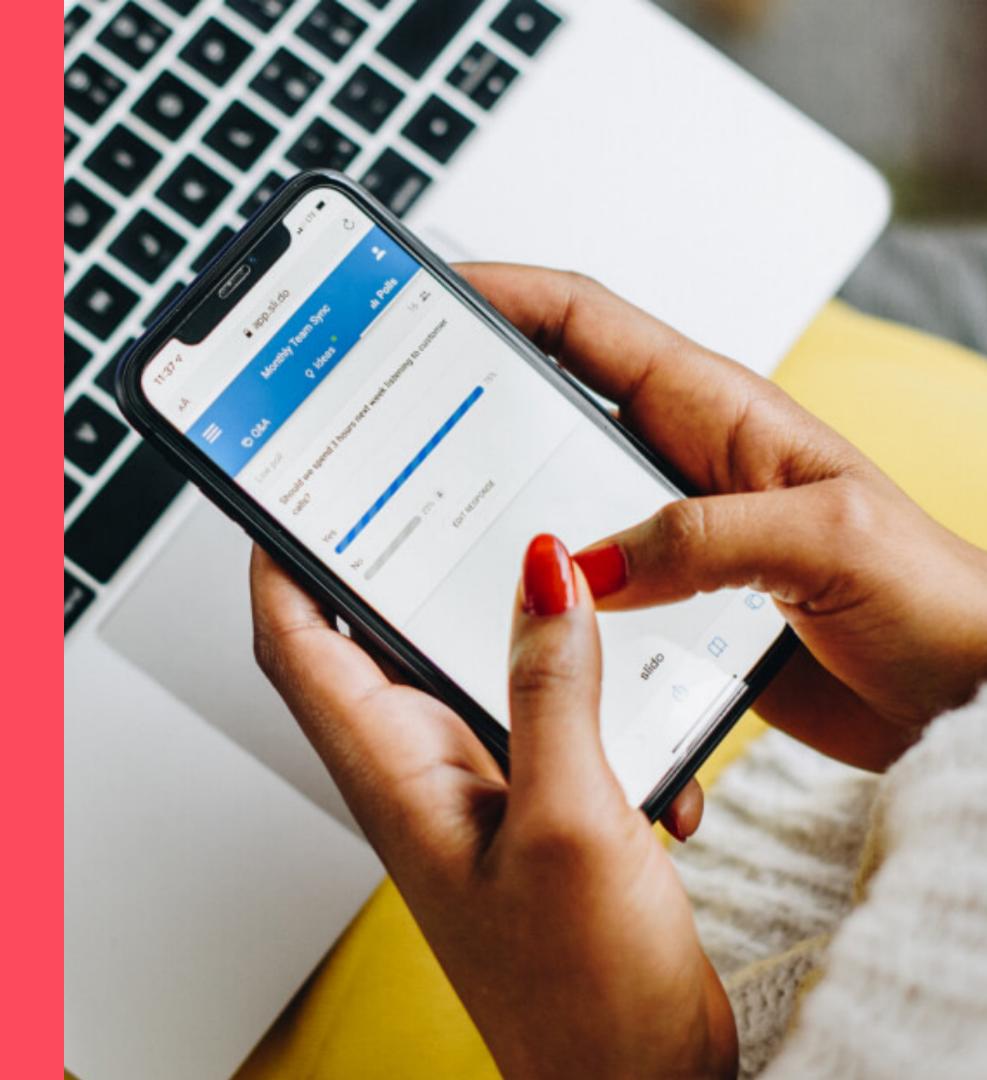






Question 1 Should suspicion for a non-accidental injury have been raised at this point?

Yes
No
I don't know

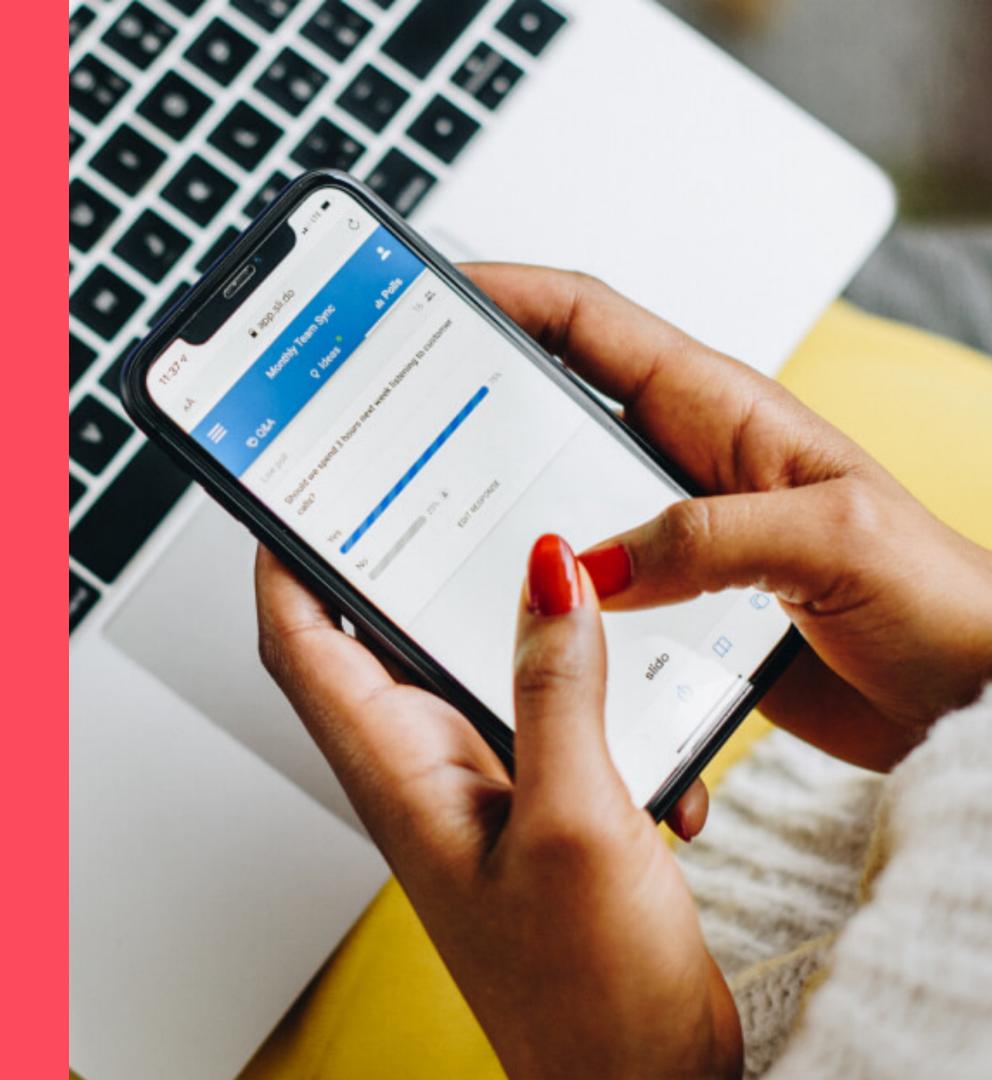




Question 2

Which of the following is the most important barrier to detect possible abuse?

Lack of screening tool
Lack of physician / nurse awareness
Poor connection to key colleagues
Overcrowding of emergency room
Health professional's burnout



## **1st Clinical Scenario:** "Panic on the kitchen-counter"

- > A week later...
- > Infant noticed not moving left arm well
- > Tenderness / fussiness attributed to burn
- > Pediatric nurses' screening raises abuse alert
- > Orthopedics evaluation
- > Xray reveals healing L diaphyseal clavicle fracture













### 1<sup>st</sup> Clinical Scenario: "Panic on the kitchen-counter"

- > Orthopedics requested pediatric evaluation
- Pediatrics notified Child Safety Care physician
- > Need for child physical abuse workup
- > Admit to hospital due to safety concerns





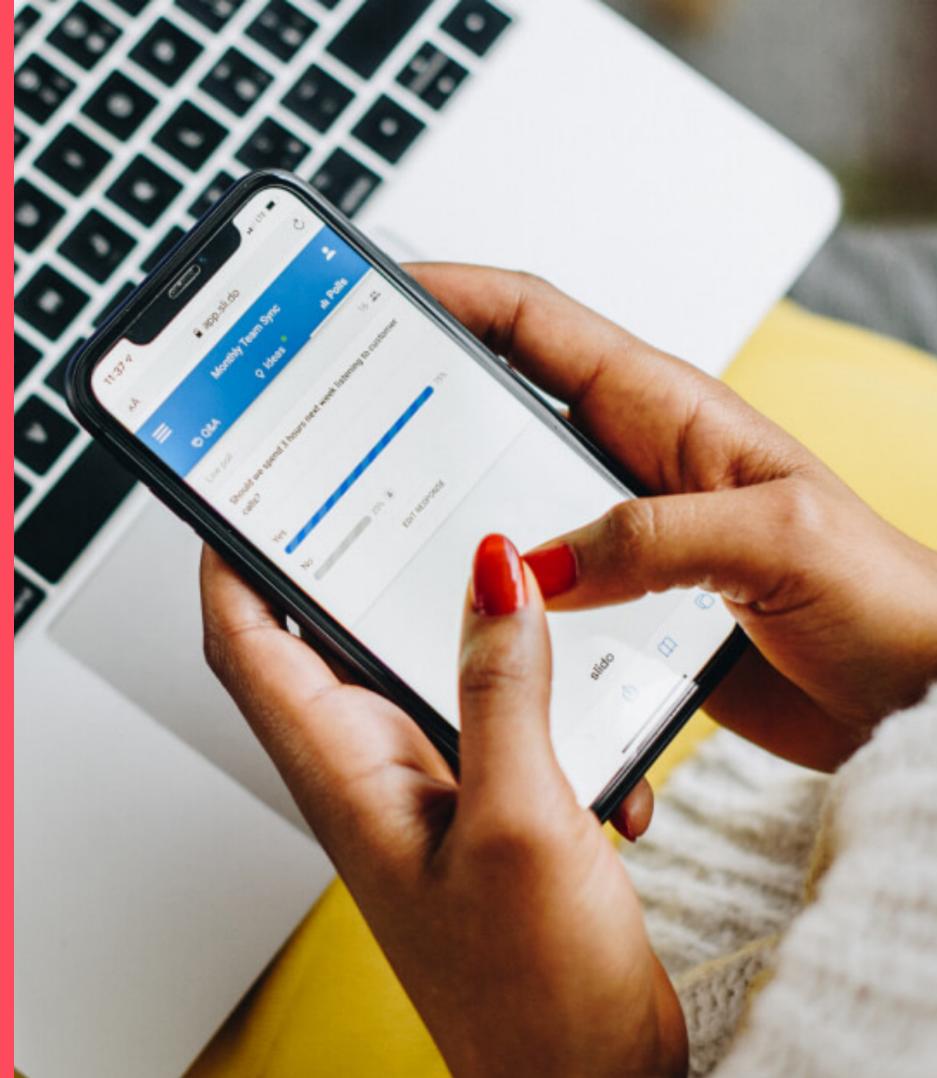




### **Question 3**

Which was the most important facilitator that led to flagging this case as possible child abuse, the second time?

- 1. Nursing triage screening tool
- 2. Awareness posters in emergency room
- 3. Orthopedics referral to pediatrics
- 4. Pediatrician's knowledge about child protection protocols
- 5. Good connection with CAP



## 1<sup>st</sup> Clinical Scenario: "Panic on the kitchen-counter"

- ✓ Detailed history and timeline of events obtained by CAP and Social Worker
- ✓ Skeletal survey (x-rays of all the bones) negative other than the clavicle fracture
- ✓ Workup otherwise negative
- No explanation other than accidental injury due to lots of commotion the day of the burn







## **1st Clinical Scenario:** "Panic on the kitchen-counter"

- Severity of injury & Concerns for neglectful behaviour
- ✓ Report filed with local child protection services
- Community services & family resources secured
- $\checkmark$  Regular routine pediatric care at the Child Safety Care unit







The Theme of the 1st Clinical Scenario was barriers and facilitators in the **Detection** of Child Abuse.

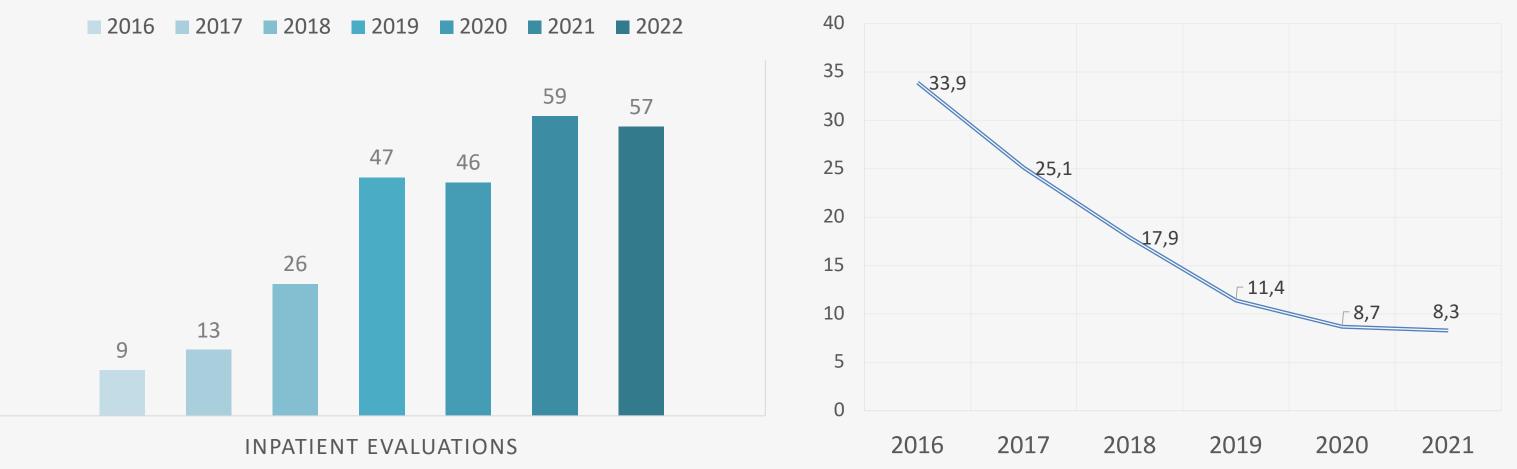
Key facilitators identified: ✓ Raising awareness in our institution ✓ Using Screening tools ✓Establishing protocols for safeguarding

Let's see how implementing these changes worked in our institution...





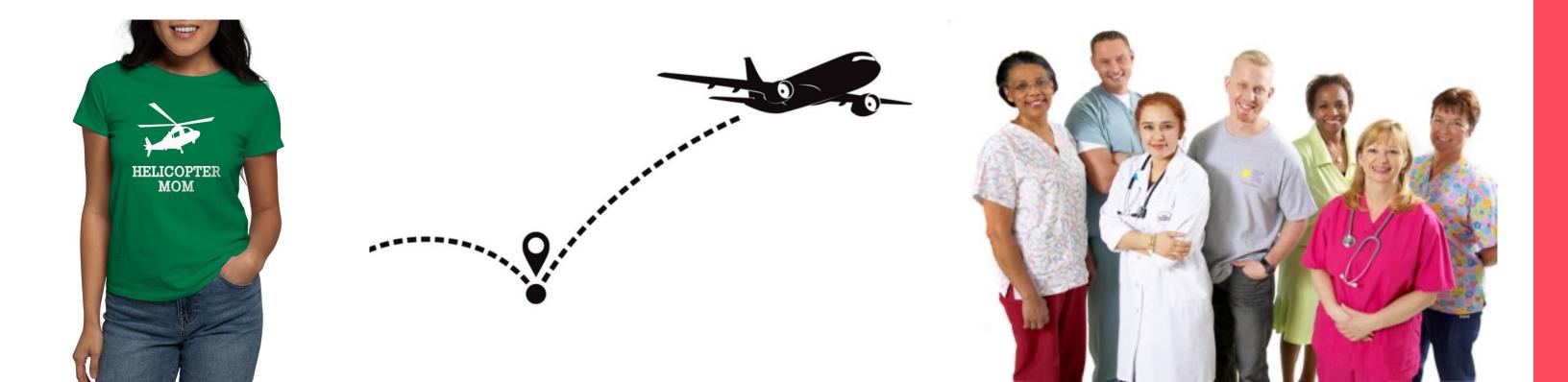
### NUMBER OF INPATIENTS EVALUATED FOR ALL CAUSES OF ABUSE



### LENGTH OF HOSPITALIZATION IN DAYS



## "Helicopter mom & just a *plane* team"



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Clinical Scenario: "Helicopter mom & just a plane team"

- During bath time 4-year-old boy told mom a neighbour touched his penis with a plumber's tool earlier that day
- Mom did not observe any redness or swelling in his genitalia
- Mom asked teacher and local police officer for advice
- ✓ Recommendation to report









## 2<sup>nd</sup> Clinical Scenario: "Helicopter mom & just a plane team"

- Mom did not report; took plane to tertiary hospital emergency room
- Physician ordered immediate psychiatric assessment
- Psychiatrists referred boy back to pediatrics, they advised hospital admission for investigation
- Mom refused hospital admission and decided to report the event herself



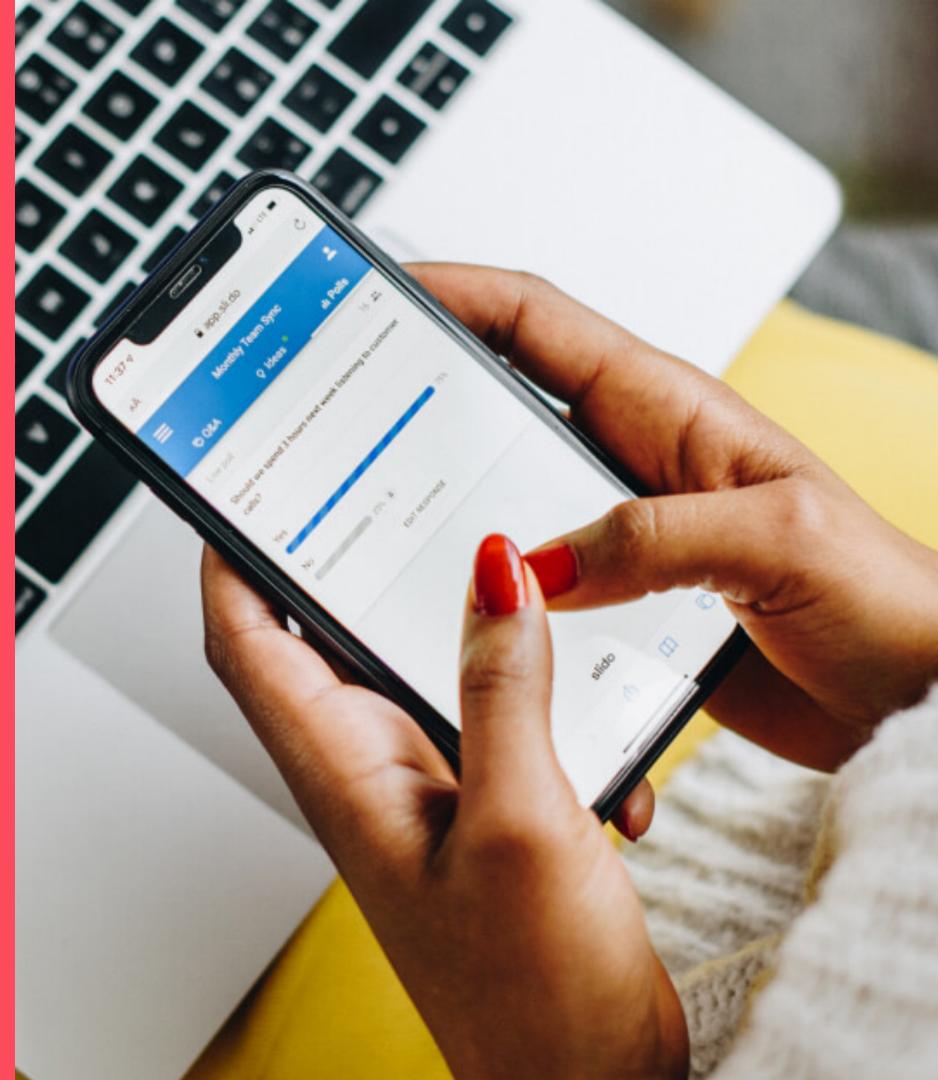




Question 4

What were the barriers to address the child's disclosure?

- 1. Poor understanding of local child protection system
- 2. Mom's harried decision making
- 3. Overcrowding of emergency room
- 4. Lack of communication between the involved physicians
- 5. Lack of a designated child safety team at the hospital



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Clinical Scenario:** "Helicopter mom & just a plane team"

- ✓ Police referral to the Child Safety Care unit
- $\checkmark$  An ad hoc team formed. Evaluation conducted jointly by pediatrician and forensic physician. Child psychologist and social worker present.
- ✓ Provided reassurance head-to-toe assessment was normal.
- Used opportunity to offer body safety tips and booked follow-up with child psychologist.
- $\checkmark$  Community services notified about alleged perpetrator.







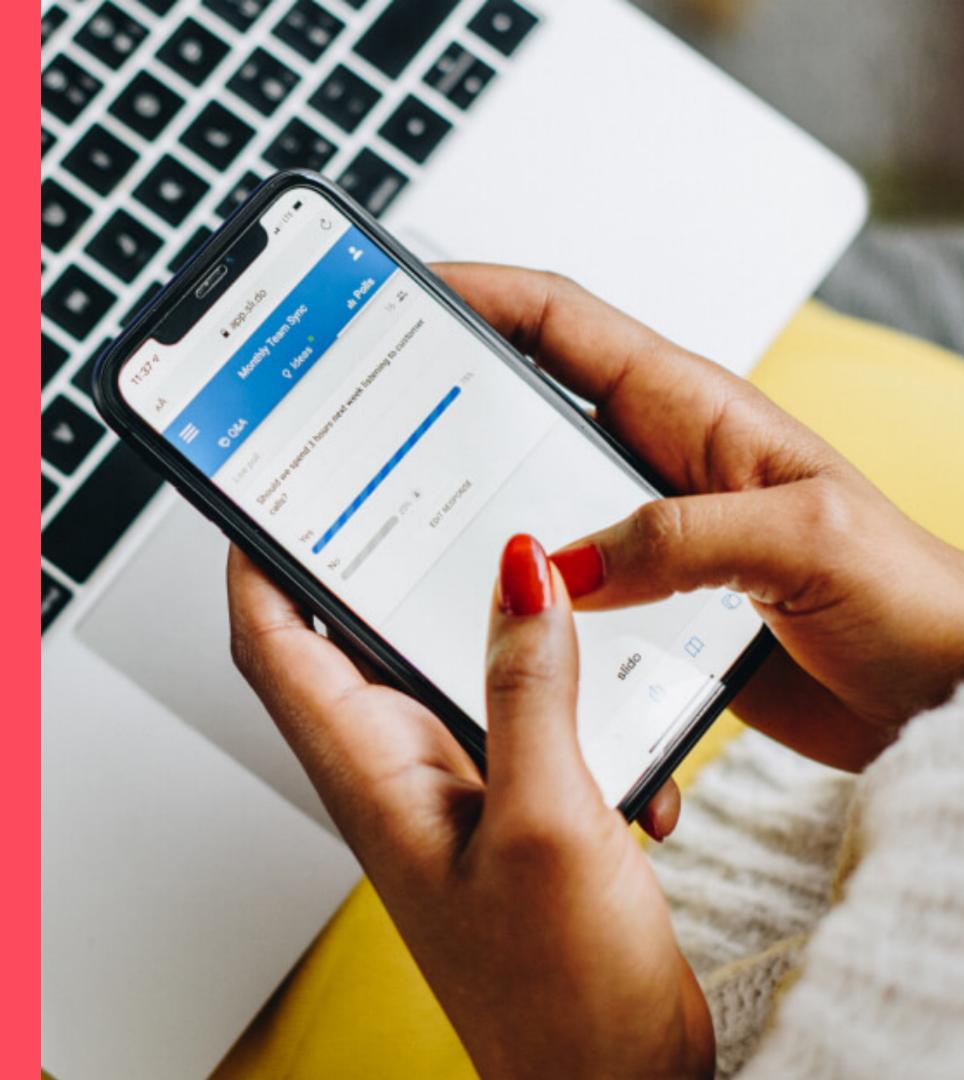




Question 5

Which was the most important facilitator, leading to improved care?

- 1. Prompt referral to child safety care unit by police
- 2. Patient-needs based care
- 3. Comprehensive medical evaluation & care during a single visit
- 4. Care focused evaluation
- 5. Evidence / protocol-based care





The theme of the 2nd Clinical Scenario was barriers and facilitators in providing **Care and Services** in the setting of Child Abuse.

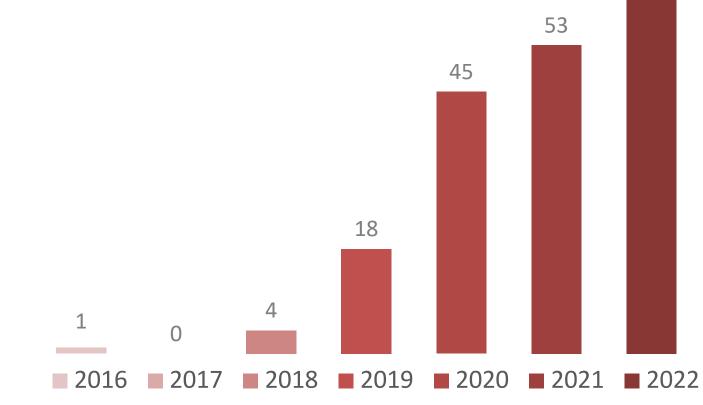
Key facilitators identified: ✓ Multidisciplinary Team On the spot Always available Ad hoc composition

Let's see how implementing this change worked in our institution...





### NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVALUATED FOR **POSSIBLE SEXUAL ABUSE**







# THANK YOU!



# Mentoring with RESPECT

### John M. Leventhal, MD Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics









Is a good way of summarizing our interactions over the years:

- For each other's knowledge, place, and culture
- Taking on the work with humility •



**R**esources that I have been able to provide: -Knowledge

- -Articles
- -Regular meetings by zoom
- -Colleagues and experts to provide advice
- -Opportunities to spend time in New Haven with the child abuse team and the home visiting prevention services



**E**xpertise and experience

-These would be Alex's and mine

-Intersection helps produce the clinical services and the research questions relevant to Athens and Greece.



Suggestions, advice, and feedback:

-These are critical to helping Alex formulate and then refine her ideas and projects

-These help with problem-solving



**P**ace and perspective:

-Projects always move slower than expected, especially new ones in new settings

-Appreciating what has been accomplished, instead of just looking ahead to the work still to be done



**E**ncouragement, energizing, and even excitement: -Sometimes that is what is needed and what a coach can provide



**C**onnections:

-Regular meetings with me and others at Yale in Connecticut

-Connecting to the Helfer Society (the honorary society for physician leaders in the field of child abuse)



Time with Alex and timeliness;

- -Time spent with Alex has been fruitful and rewarding and, importantly, enjoyable for me (and I trust for Alex!)
- -Timeliness of feedback is essential and keeps the project moving forward