

TEN-4-FACESp Bruising Rule

Kids are kids, and sometimes they play in ways that result in minor cuts, scrapes, and bruises. These minor injuries are often found on bony areas of the body like knees, shins, elbows, and foreheads. However, there are other types of bruises that should be a red flag for possible abuse.

When is bruising concerning for abuse in children younger than 4 years of age? If bruising in any of the three components – Regions, Infants, Patterns – is present, strongly consider evaluating for child abuse and/or consulting with an expert in child abuse.

REGIONS

“TEN”

Torso | Ears | Neck



“FACES”

Frenulum
Angle of Jaw
Cheeks (fleshy part)
Eyelids
Subconjunctivae

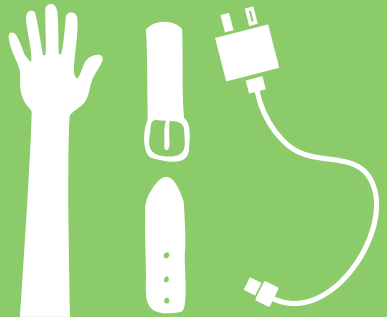
INFANTS

“4” = infants ages
4 months and younger



PATTERNS

“p” = patterned bruising



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TEN-4-FACESp is a useful acronym to help screen children under 4 years of age with bruising to identify when a bruise is more likely to be caused by abuse than accidental injury. The TEN-4-FACESp is not intended to diagnose abuse.

Scan the QR code to learn more.



How To Take Action

1. Stay calm and conversational if you notice bruising on a child.

- Ask non-leading questions, such as:
 - What happened?
 - Where were you when it happened?
 - Did an adult see it happen?
- Refrain from asking specific questions or jumping to conclusions.
 - Professionals with appropriate training will handle the investigation.

2. Document what you see, hear, and ask. Include:

- Color, shape, location, and size of the bruising.
- What the child or parent says happened.
- A list of all questions you asked.

3. Make the report.

Contact Child Protective Services by calling:

1-877-KYSAFE1 or 1-877-597-2331



Founded By

