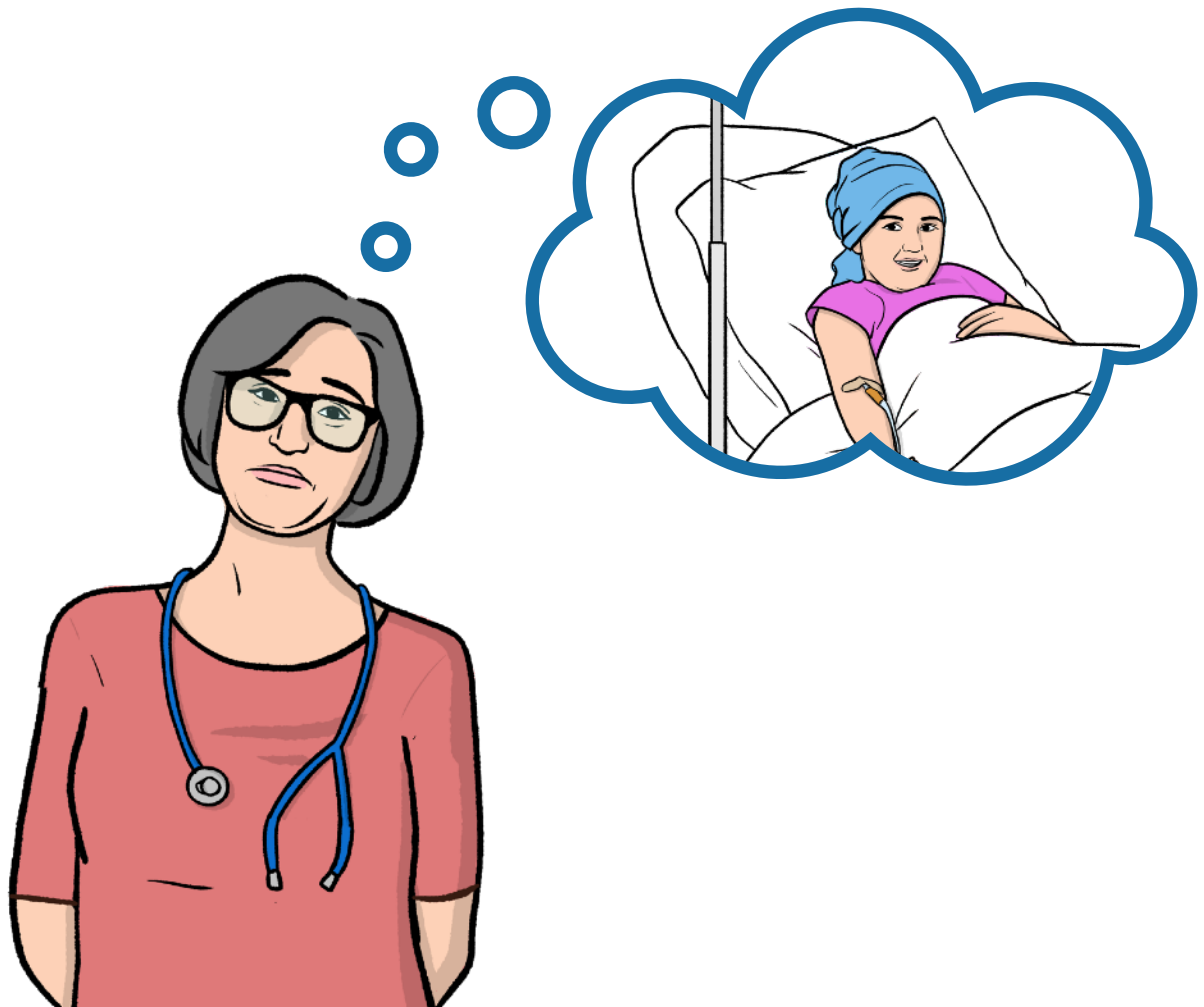




**What happens if your doctor,
physician associate or
anaesthesia associate is worried
about your child being safe?**



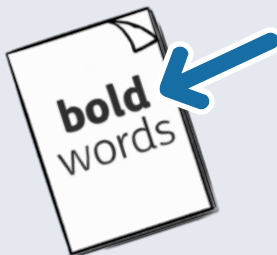
Easy Read



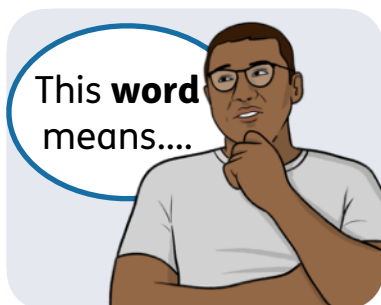
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



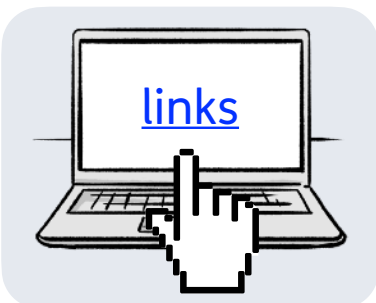
This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet

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About this booklet

General
Medical
Council

This booklet is from the General Medical Council (GMC).



We support doctors, **physician associates** and **anaesthesia associates** to give good, safe care to patients.



Physician associates are part of the team that cares for patients.

They are **supervised** by doctors - that means that doctors support them to do their job well.



Anaesthesia associates are part of the team that stops you from feeling pain when you have an operation.

They are supervised by **anaesthetists**. **Anaesthetists** are doctors in charge of stopping you feel pain when you have an operation.



This information is about what happens if your doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate is worried about your child being safe.



Your doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate will need to do something if they think a child or young person is not safe.



We will tell you more about:

- What your doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate will do if they think your child is not safe.



- The questions parents might ask about this.



We hope this leaflet will answer some of your questions.

Things the doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate will do



Every child is different. Doctors, physician associates and anaesthesia associates should treat each child as an individual.



The doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate might not decide what to do straight away.



They will work with you to make sure your child gets the right care and support.



They might get some help and advice from people they work with before they decide what to do.



Most of the time they will not tell this person your name or the name of your child.



If they still think your child is being hurt or is not safe, they will have to tell another service that works with children.

This might be:



- Local **social services**.

Social services are part of the council and provide help and support to people when they need it.



- The **NSPCC** - this is a charity that helps to keep children safe.

Talking to you before anything happens



Your doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate should tell you if they are worried about your child being safe.



They should tell you what they are going to do about this.



They might not tell you if they think more harm would happen to your child if they tell you.



If they think worse things will happen to your child after they tell you what they are going to do, they might not tell you.



You can ask them questions about what they say they are going to do.



The doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate should:

- Be honest and tell you what they think.



- Listen to what you have to say.



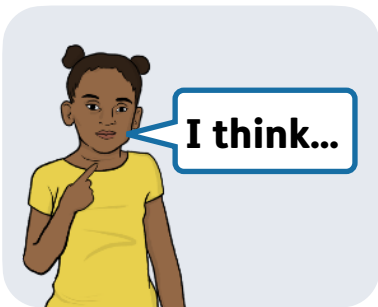
- Listen to other ideas about what they think is happening to your child.

Talking to your child

The doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate should:



- Talk to your child.



- Listen to what your child has to say.



They might want to talk to your child on their own, without you there.

Asking if you agree to share information about your child



Most of the time, the doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate will ask if they can share information about your child.



They might not ask you if they think more harm would come to your child by asking you.



Your child might be able to say that the doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate can share information about themselves.



If your child cannot do this, then you will have to agree for them.

The doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate will tell you:



- What happens to the information.



- Who they are going to tell.

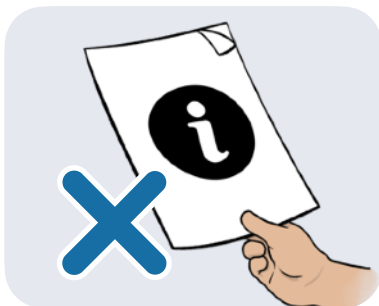
Saying you do not want information to be shared



If you do not want the doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate to share information about you and your child, they will ask why.



They might say that sharing information is the only way to stop more harm from happening to your child.



Most of the time, the doctor, physician associate or anaesthesia associate will not share information about you or your family unless you say they can.



But sometimes they will have to tell other people things to stop children and young people from getting hurt.

Getting help and advice



You can get help and advice from these organisations.

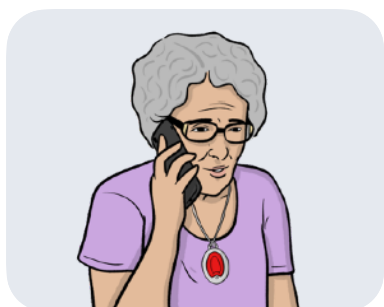
The NSPCC



The **NSPCC** is a charity that helps to keep children safe.



Children and young people can call them on 0800 111.



Adults can call them on 0808 800 5000.



You can find out more on their website:
www.nspcc.org.uk

The Family Rights Group



This group gives free advice and support to families.

You can contact them by:



- Phone: 0808 801 0366 (this phone line is free to call).



- The contact form on their website:
www.frg.org.uk

The Coram Children's Legal Centre



The **Coram Children's Legal Centre** gives free advice about things to do with the law.

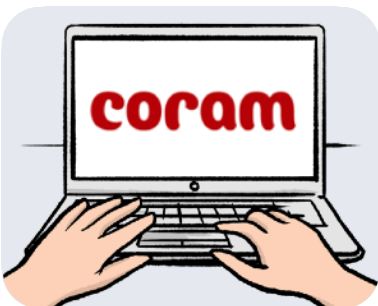


They can do this for children, young people and their families.

You can contact them by:



- Phone: 0808 802 0008 (this phone line is free to call).



- Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com

Citizens Advice



Citizens Advice gives free advice to everyone.



You can find out more on their website:
www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Family Lives



Family Lives is a charity giving help and support to families.

You can contact them by:



- Phone: 0808 800 2222 (this phone line is free to call).



- Website: www.familylives.org.uk

Home Start



Home Start is a charity that helps children and their families.



You can find out more on their website:
www.home-start.org.uk

Family Action



Family Action is a charity that gives support to people who do not have very much money.



You can find out more on their website:
www.family-action.org.uk

Victoria Climbié Foundation



This is a charity that gives advice and support to children and their families.



They give advice on things to do with **culture** and religion.

Culture is the way people behave based on their beliefs and ideas.



You can find out more on their website:
www.vcf-uk.org

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If you have any questions about the Easy Read document, please contact the General Medical Council.