

SECTION SIX: SUDDEN UNEXPECTED DEATHS IN INFANCY (SUDIC) AND CHILDREN

Definition

The sudden and unexpected death (unexpected in the 24 hrs prior to the death) of a child under the age of 24 months irrespective of the place of death

- At home or in the community
- In the hospital emergency department or ward

A SUDIC should be managed in accordance with the SUDIC guidelines please see the Cheshire West and Chester Local Safeguarding Children Board Manual of procedures (available on the [\(CoCH intranet\)](#)). Please note the coroner will have jurisdiction over the death and adherence to the protocol will be under public scrutiny at any inquest.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

The overall purpose of the child death review process is to understand why children die and put in place interventions to protect other children and try to prevent future deaths. More details can be found in the Trust Child Death Overview Policy. **The Designated Consultant for the CDOP is Dr Rajiv Mittal who can be contacted via 01**

SECTION SEVEN: MONITORING OF THIS POLICY

All policies will be monitored via incidents reported on the Trust risk management system and reviewed at the appropriate incident review group. Compliance with this policy and the Trust safeguarding children training programme will be reviewed via the Trust Safeguarding children audit plan see **Appendix 9**

Any results from incident reviews or audits will be used to review the current policy.

The annual safeguarding children report will be presented to the CoCH Safeguarding Strategy Board and the Trust Quality Committee.

REFERENCES

- Adoption & Children Act DOH (2002)*
- A Call to End Violence against Women and Girls HM Government Action Plan (2013)*
- All Babies Count: Prevention & Protection for Vulnerable Babies (NSPCC 2011)*
- All Wales Child Protection Procedures (WAG) (2008)*
- Cheshire Local Safeguarding Children Board (2015) Manual of Procedures*
- Child Protection – a toolkit for Doctors (BMA May 2009)*
- Children Act DOH (1989)*
- Children Act DOH (2004) Section 10 Every Child Matters, S11 Duty to Cooperate*
- Children and Family Act 2014*
- DOH Sexual Offences Act (2003)*
- Domestic Violence, Crime & Victims Act 2004*