

Fast Facts

Shaken Baby Syndrome

- When an infant or toddler has a severe brain injury due to being forcefully shaken
- Also known as abusive head trauma, shaken impact syndrome, inflicted head injury, or whiplash shake syndrome
- Young children have weak neck muscles and a large, heavy head. If forcefully shaken, it causes their brain to move back and forth within their skull. The outcome is bruising, swelling, and bleeding that puts pressure on the brain, causing it not to receive enough oxygen leading to brain damage or death
- Often occurs when a caregiver severely shakes a baby out of frustration or anger (generally because the child won't stop crying)
- Important to note that bouncing a child on your knee, minor falls, or rough play aren't usually strong enough to cause shaken baby syndrome

<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Prevention</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Extreme fussiness/irritability-Difficulty staying awake-Breathing problems-Poor eating-Vomiting-Pale/bluish skin-Seizures-Paralysis-Coma-Death	<p><i>Emergency Care:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Surgery-Medicines-Breathing support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Taking new parent education class-Calling for help when needed-Seeing a mental health professional

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