

Session 4 : Social and Legal Framework

A. Learning Objectives

By the end of the Session 4, the participants should be able to:-

- Summarize the actions that health workers may take to protect a child beyond filing a child abuse report.
- List situations in which health workers must report suspected cases of maltreatment.
- Describe the legal framework for reporting child abuse.

It would be good to invite a representative from the Child Care and Protection Agency to interact with the participants at this session.

B. Materials

1. Flipchart, markers , masking tape
2. Handouts to distribute
3. Flip charts from Session 3 which could be used for recap session
4. Training contract flip chart
5. Participant Expectations flip chart
6. Work sheets
7. Diagram from C.6 drawn up.
8. Case Studies to distribute for discussion

C. Proposed Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Recap of Session 3
 - a. Review contract and evaluation of Session 3.
 - b. Review topics from Session 3.
 - c. Discuss the stages of a child's psychosocial development.
 - d. Discuss helping strategies for children who have been abused.
 - e. Identify and practise techniques to probe suspicions of child abuse.
3. Examine learning objectives for Session 4.
4. Demonstrate how to help a child, others than filing a report.
5. Present the legal framework.
6. Case Study analysis
7. Evaluation of Session 4

C.1 Greetings (5 minutes)

Facilitator Notes: The greeting session is used to reintroduce participants to each other and to ground the participants so that they can focus on the session. Use any of the exercises or activities in the Annex as the icebreaker.

Review of contract

Facilitator Notes: Review the training contract with the participants and check to see if there is

anything which should be added or removed. This is a good time to remind about putting the cell phones in vibrate mode.

The training contract should be visible during all sessions.

Reflections

Seek from the group any thoughts or reflections on incidents related to what they have learnt since Session 3. These could include any cases they have seen, or reactions to any stories in the news or any incidents which they have come into contact with.

Note any issues or questions which they would like answered if these are to be done during the session.

C.2 Recap of Session 3 (10 minutes)

The content of Session 3

Facilitator Notes: Review these topics, referring to the handouts and the discussions from Session 3. If you had asked a group of participants to do the recap activity, ask them now to present.

Ensure that the participants are reminded about these learning objectives during this recap session. The participants should be able to:-

- Link the stages of children development with the appropriate interventions.
- Identify helping strategies for children who have been abused.
- Identify techniques to probe suspicions of child abuse.

C.3. Learning Objectives for Session 4 (5 minutes)

Facilitator Notes: Reflect on the learning objectives for this session and any of the participant expectations which might be linked to them. These participant expectations would have been recorded in Session 1.

Briefing Notes: By the end of the Session 4, it is expected that you the participants would be able to:-

- Summarize the actions that health workers may take to protect a child beyond filing a child abuse report.
- List situations in which health workers must report suspected cases of maltreatment.
- Describe the legal framework for reporting child abuse

C.4 Actions to Protect Children – the Assessment Framework for Child Protection (30 minutes)

Facilitator Notes: The base for this section is to consider the *Assessment Framework for Children in Need* which is a model in use by child protection services in different parts of the world. The proposed methodology is for the model to be presented to the class. The class is then divided into three groups.

Each group will consider one domain of the assessment framework.

Replicate this diagram on one piece of flipchart paper.



Briefing Notes:

Emphasis:

The goal of a nurse's intervention is to ensure that the child receives the necessary health care AND that the child could be placed in a protective environment.

The Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families provides a systematic basis for collecting and analysing information to support professional judgments about how to help children and families in the best interests of the child. Practitioners should use the framework to gain an understanding of the following domains:

- a child's developmental needs;
- the capacity of parents or caregivers to respond appropriately to those needs, including their capacity to keep the child safe from harm; and
- the impact of wider family and environmental factors on the parents and child.

Developmental needs refer to Health, Education, Emotional and Behavioural Development, Identity, Family and Social Relationships, Social Presentation and Self-care Skills.

Parenting Capacity refers to Basic Care, Ensuring Safety, Emotional Warmth, Stimulation, Guidance, Boundaries and Stability.

Family and Environmental Factors refer to Availability of Community Resources, Family's Social Integration, Income, Employment, Housing (Water and Sanitation), Wider Family, Family History and Functioning.

Instructions for Self-study Activity: How can nurses and health care workers meet the needs of a child survivor of abuse?

Distribute Handout 4.1

Divide the group into three groups (or six groups if the class is larger). Each group will study one domain and present answers for each of the factors as to how nurses and health care workers can meet the needs of a child within each domain.

Each group will use flipchart paper. Each group will head up the flipchart with the domain title.

The factors will be listed and, under each factor, the group members will list actions which they believe nurses and other health care workers can take to protect children.

Suggested time for discussion is 15-20 minutes.

The groups then put up their flipchart sheets in shopping window style. The participants examine the different presentations and are allowed to add to them.

In Plenary, the facilitator highlights the different ways in which nurses and other health care workers can help to ensure that the needs of children can be met.

Point out that in some cases, these are in the professional domain, while in other cases it would be in the personal sphere.

C.5 Legal Framework and Reporting Mechanisms (15 minutes)

Facilitator Notes : The Protection of Children Act of 2009 explains the reporting responsibilities of health care workers when they suspect that children are in need of child protection.

C.6 Case Study Analysis (30 minutes – 20 minutes plenary)

Facilitator Notes: The case studies give the participants an opportunity to reflect on the objectives of the four sessions. Participants are divided into groups of no more than four persons. Each group is given a case study to analyse. The results are presented in plenary.

C.7. Evaluation and Closing of Session 4 (10 minutes)

Facilitator Notes: Conduct an oral evaluation of the session.

Review the list of participant expectations which were compiled in Session 1 and see if they were completed.