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Intentional Injury (Child Abuse) is an insidious issue and a term used for a deliberately inflicted injury, a physical injury. The child's welfare is paramount to the paediatric ED clinician and unrecognised intentional injury can have a detrimental effect on a child's physical or emotional health, development and wellbeing

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History tells us that intentional injury is not a new phenomenon, the terminology may have evolved over time, but intentional injury persists in the twenty first century. There are cutaneous subtle signs and obvious "red flag" signs plus injury constellations that require further investigation – these are discussed in this presentation. Having a high index of suspicion for intentional injury in conjunction with specifically developed tools such as the TEN-4 rule, will enable both attention to detail and objectivity in this regard. It is important to make appropriate referrals, adhere to mandatory requirements, facilitate investigations; treat clinical needs and assist with the safe disposition of the child. The impact that intentional injury may have on the child and the vicarious impact on the clinicians involved is acknowledged.

Biography

Tona Gillen is a Registered Nurse, a Registered Sick Children Nurse (RSCN) and Registered General Nurse (RGN) with Grad Cert Paediatric Nursing (Emergency) with thirty years clinical practice, almost exclusively in critical care areas, and dedicated specifically to paediatrics for more than two decades. She currently work as the Trauma Nurse Manager at the only paediatric Major Trauma Centre (hospital) in Brisbane, Qld. Australia. This hospital serves children not only in Queensland but also in Northern New South Wales and the Pacific Rim. She is an Ambassador of Kidsafe and she has been a coordinator of Emergency Management of Severe Trauma (EMST/ ATLS) since 2007, with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS).

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