



## *Forensic Interview Practice*

### **American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) Guidelines**

#### *Components*

- Provides guidelines and recommends a phased approach;
- Recommends:
  - 1. Introductory phase** - Introductions, explanation of any documentation being used and of any observers, interview instructions/rules and narrative practice
  - 2. Information Gathering Stage** - Transition to the topic of concern followed by prompts to obtain details
  - 3. Closure Stage** - Clarification questions, opportunity for the child to ask questions, safety assessment and re-establishing child's equilibrium - end on a neutral topic
- Recommends for the interviewer to adapt to the child accordingly, i.e. if a child begins to make a disclosure before getting through the introductory phase, covering all components of the introductory phase may not be necessary

#### *Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible*

- Feels structured and semi-structured formats can be effective and increase adherence to best practices
- Feels it is important for the interviewer to be flexible and adapt the interview to the individual child

#### *Evidence-Based*

N/A – only provides guidelines

#### *Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

- Offers guidelines and recommendations, but does not give a specific protocol or model

#### *Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Updated based on best practices
- Includes practicum interviews
- Includes a Mock Court



## American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) Guidelines continued

### ***Additional Comments***

Last revision was in 2012

### ***Recorded/Not Recorded***

Video recording is recommended; If video recording is not possible, audio recording is recommended

### ***Written Report/No Report***

No recommendation regarding a report; Recommends that if video nor audio recording is available, written notes should be as close to verbatim as possible for both, the interviewer prompts and the child's responses

### ***Cost of Training***

**Members:** \$1199; **Non-Members:** \$1299

### ***National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved***

Yes

#### Resources:

American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) Practice Guidelines. *Forensic Interviewing in Cases of Suspected Child Abuse*. APSAC. 2012.

American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC). Retrieved from <https://www.apsacohio.org/forensic-interview-clinics>.

***For more information, please contact APSAC at 1-877-402-7722 or [www.apsac.org](http://www.apsac.org)***



## *Forensic Interview Practice*

**ChildFirst Forensic Interviewing Protocol/Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center**

### *Components*

- 1. Rapport** - Includes introduction of self to the child, family relationships and narrative practice
- 2. Transition to the Topic of Concern** - Uses open-ended invitations and questions; *for allegations of physical abuse, torture, sexual abuse, trafficking and witness to violence*, the interviewer uses anatomical diagrams; *for allegations of neglect, torture, psychological maltreatment and witnessing domestic violence*, the interviewer explores family relationships; **Decision tree:** If disclosure is made, interviewer moves to Phase 3 (Exploration of Details), and if no disclosure is made, interviewer moves to Phase 4, (Closure)
- 3. Exploration of Details** -Uses age appropriate questions; includes narrative elaboration, eliciting information about certain events, the use of media, exploring alternative hypotheses, inquiry about other forms of maltreatment (poly victimization and safety assessment)
- 4. Closure** - Includes inviting the child to ask questions, exploring safety options, ending respectfully and returning to a neutral topic

### *Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible*

Flexible

### *Evidence-Based*

Yes

### *Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

- Train the Trainer trainings are for three (3) weeks over a period of twelve (12) months
- Uses anatomically correct diagrams when age appropriate for clarification purposes and for naming body parts



## ChildFirst Forensic Interviewing Protocol/Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center continued

### *Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

- Geared toward children who have made a disclosure
- Provides ongoing technical assistance, including quarterly calls with other ChildFirst states, annual meetings and a voice in decision making regarding any updates to the training
- Training for participants is 40 hours

### *Additional Comments*

- Been around since 1998 --early on had a partnership with CornerHouse, but no longer has a partnership with CornerHouse
- Went through significant changes in 2011- 2013, taking more of a holistic approach; also, placed more emphasis on poly victimization
- Teaches Truth/Lie based on what local protocols require
- Ongoing support/technical assistance is available for ChildFirst states and all trainees
- Train the Trainer is within the states that are ChildFirst states --3-week training program

### *Recorded/Not Recorded*

Recordings - Gives recommendations based on best practices, and gears training toward what local protocols request

### *Written Report/No Report*

Written Report - Gives recommendations based on best practices, and gears training toward what local protocols request

### *Cost of Training*

- **National Training Registration Fee:** Varies based on agreement made with the state hosting the training
- Hosts a national training annually, coming up in Coral Springs, FL - possibly January, 2018
- If a state wants a week-long training, ChildFirst will do it
- Train the Trainer fees vary based on agreement made with the state



**ChildFirst Forensic Interviewing Protocol/Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center continued**

***National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved***

Yes

Resources:

Farrell, Rita. Forensic Interview Specialist, Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center. Received from Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, Sept. 5, 2017.

Farrell, Rita. Forensic Interview Specialist, Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center. Received from Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, Sept. 11, 2017.

Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center. "ChildFirst Protocol." 2017. Retrieved from <file:///H:/CPT/FI%20Protocol%20Task%20Force/ChildFirst/ChildFirst-Protocol-outline-2017.pdf>. Sept. 13, 2017.

Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center. "The ChildFirst Forensic Interview Protocol." 2016. Retrieved from <file:///H:/CPT/FI%20Protocol%20Task%20Force/ChildFirst/ChildFirst-Forensic-Interview-Protocol.pdf>. Aug. 17, 2017.

***For more information please contact Rita Farrell, Forensic Interview Specialist, at 479-715-7975 or [rafarrel@gundersenhealth.org](mailto:rafarrel@gundersenhealth.org), or Michael Kohner, Digital Communications/ChildFirst Contact at 507-457-2897 or [mdkohner@gundersenhealth.org](mailto:mdkohner@gundersenhealth.org). You may also visit <http://www.gundersenhealth.org/ncptc/childfirst-forensic-interviewing-protocol/>***



## ***Forensic Interview Practice***

### ***Cognitive Interview/Modified Cognitive Interview***

#### ***Components***

- 1. Rapport Building Phase***
- 2. Explanation of the Goals of the Interview***
- 3. Substantive Phase*** - Includes:

**Cognitive Interview:** Consists of four main techniques to help memory recall and improve communication:

- Context Reinstatement** – A mental reinstatement of physical and personal contexts at the time of the event
- Report All** - Give as much detail and disclosure as possible
- Chronological Order and Changing Order** - Recount the event first in chronological order and then in a reversed (backwards) order
- Change Perspective** - Describe the event

**Modified Cognitive Interview (ages 4 - 9):**

**Changing Perspective** is removed; **Changing Order** is removed and replaced with an instruction to repeat the event again in chronological order

- 4. Closure Phase***

#### ***Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible***

Flexible

#### ***Evidence-Based***

Yes

#### ***Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- Used mostly by law enforcement personnel when questioning adult witnesses - later modified for interviewing children



## Cognitive Interview/Modified Cognitive Interview continued

### *Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Training includes role play scenarios

### *Additional Comments*

No information

### *Recorded/Not Recorded*

No information

### *Written Report/No Report*

No information

### *Cost of Training*

**Online Course:** \$129

### *National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved*

Yes

Resources:

E Learning for Law Enforcement. Retrieved from

<https://lawenforcementlearning.com/course/cognitive-interviewing-maximizing-information-from-victims-witnesses>. Aug. 28, 2017.

Fisher, Ronald P. and Geiselman, R. Edward. "The Cognitive Interview method of conducting police interviews: Eliciting extensive information and promoting Therapeutic Jurisprudence."

Retrieved from <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/01602527/33?sd=1>, August 30, 2017.



## Cognitive Interview/Modified Cognitive Interview continued

Forensic Interview Solutions (FIS). Cognitive Interviewing Courses. Retrieved from <https://www.fis-international.com/services/public-sector/police-courses/investigative-interviewing-courses/cognitive-interviewing-ci-eci-courses/>. Aug. 28, 2017.

Jaśkiewicz-Obydzińska, Teresa. "The Cognitive Interview of Children." Ewa Wach, Institute of Forensic Expert Opinions, Kraków. Retrieved from [www.canee.net/files/The%20Cognitive%20Interview%20of%20Children.pdf](http://www.canee.net/files/The%20Cognitive%20Interview%20of%20Children.pdf). Aug. 28, 2017.

***For more information please visit <https://www.fis-international.com/services/public-sector/police-courses/investigative-interviewing-courses/cognitive-interviewing-ci-eci-courses/> and <https://lawenforcementlearning.com/course/cognitive-interviewing-maximizing-information-from-victims-witnesses>.***





## *Forensic Interview Practice*

### *CornerHouse aka Finding Words*

#### *Components*

1. **Build Rapport** - Includes introduction of interviewer to the child, learning about the child and facilitating the child's best functioning; added ground rules, narrative practice and an open invitation to the topic of concern in 2012-2013
2. **Seek Information** - Includes giving the child a chance to report their experience
3. **Explore Statements** - Includes getting details
4. **End Respectfully** - Includes attending to the child's presentation, communicated experience and observed needs

#### *Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible*

Semi-structured; Developmentally flexible

#### *Evidence-Based*

Yes

#### *Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

No information

#### *Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Includes role play with trained actors

#### *Additional Comments*

- Went through significant changes in 2012-2013 and did away with RATAAC (Rapport, Anatomy Identification, Touch Inquiry, Abuse Scenario, Closure)
- Has a separate training on the use of anatomical dolls
- Has training for vulnerable adults



<b>CornerHouse aka Finding Words continued</b>
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<b><i>Recorded/Not Recorded</i></b>
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Recorded
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<b><i>Written Report/No Report</i></b>
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Does not have specific recommendations about written reports
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<b><i>Cost of Training</i></b>
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<b><i>Early Registration:</i></b> \$1165; <b><i>W/in 30 days of Training:</i></b> \$1365; <b><i>On-site (at your facility):</i></b> \$7900 for up to 30 participants
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<b><i>National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved</i></b>
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Yes
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Resources:

Henry, Melissa, Training Outreach Coordinator, CornerHouse. Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, Aug. 29, 2017.

Henry, Melissa, Training Outreach Coordinator, CornerHouse. Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, Sept. 14, 2017.

***For more information please contact Melissa Henry at 612-813-8310 or [melissa.henry@childrensmn.org](mailto:melissa.henry@childrensmn.org). You may also visit [www.cornerhouse.org](http://www.cornerhouse.org)***



## Forensic Interview Practice

### FI Model used in North Carolina

### Components

Uses mostly Recognizing Abuse Disclosure Types and Responding (RADAR), ChildFirst and National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC) models

### Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible

Dependent upon the model being used

### Evidence-Based

RADAR, ChildFirst and NCAC are evidence based

### Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

No information

### Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

- RADAR, ChildFirst and NCAC include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- RADAR, ChildFirst and NCAC review and update structure periodically

### Additional Comments

No information

### Recorded/Not Recorded

Mostly recorded - recommends recording



<b>FI Model used in North Carolina continued</b>
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<b>Written Report/No Report</b>
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Dependent upon the structure being used
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<b>Cost of Training</b>
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Varies
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<b>National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved</b>
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RADAR, ChildFirst and NCAC are NCA approved
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Resources:

McCoy, Mary, ChildFirst North Carolina Coordinator. Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, Aug. 29, 2017.

***For more information please contact Mary McCoy at 910-677-2931 or [MaryMcCoy@ccdsnc.com](mailto:MaryMcCoy@ccdsnc.com)***



## Forensic Interview Practice

### Forensic Interview structure used in Texas

### Components

Uses a blended version of current best practices and guidelines:

1. Preparation
2. Rapport
3. Truth/Lie/Oath/Rules
4. Introduce the Topic of Concern
5. Detail Gathering
6. Closure

### Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible

Semi-structured

### Evidence-Based

Yes, in some cases, also based on case law

### Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

- Training model is a three-block model for their core curriculum in order to space out the time in between trainings: Block I – 3 days, Block II – 3 days, Block III – 2 days

### Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Similar to other semi-structured models

### Additional Comments

- Does not address tools to use when interviewing children with developmental delays



<b>Forensic Interview structure used in Texas continued</b>
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<b>Recorded/Not Recorded</b>
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No information
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<b>Written Report/No Report</b>
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No information
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<b>Cost of Training</b>
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No information
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<b>National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved</b>
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Dependent upon protocol used
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Resources:

Bass, Catherine. Chief Strategy Officer, Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas. Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen. Sept. 17, 2017.

Rauls, Joy. "Children's Advocacy Centers at 25 Years." *The Prosecutor*, Nov.-Dec. 2013, Volume 43, No.6.

***For more information please contact Catherine Bass, Chief Strategy Officer, Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas at 512-906-2909 or cbass@cactx.org***



## ***Forensic Interview Practice***

**Florida Department of Health (FL DOH)**

### ***Components***

Uses a blended version of current best practices and other recognized models/protocols/guidelines/structures, including American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), Recognizing Abuse Disclosure Types and Responding (RADAR), National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC), CornerHouse and ChildFirst

### ***Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible***

Flexible

### ***Evidence-Based***

APSAC Guidelines, RADAR, NCAC, CornerHouse and ChildFirst are evidence based

### ***Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- Includes a critique of students' interviews after they have been in the field and practicing approximately three (3) months
- Includes cultural sensitivity
- Includes interviewing persons with disabilities

### ***Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Reviewed/updated three (3) times a year for accuracy and to ensure current best practices and the latest research
- Training includes practicum interviews with onsite peer review
- Training includes Mock Court
- Provides ongoing support/technical assistance



<b>Florida Department of Health (FL DOH) continued</b>
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<b><i>Additional Comments</i></b>
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| ➤ Offers training to personnel in law enforcement and state attorneys' offices |
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<b><i>Recorded/Not Recorded</i></b>
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Recommends recording
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<b><i>Written Report/No Report</i></b>
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Written Report
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<b><i>Cost of Training</i></b>
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No cost
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<b><i>National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved</i></b>
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Yes
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Resources:

Sandefter-Gonsen, Jackie, CPT Training and Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Coordinator. Florida Department of Health (FL DOH).

***For more information please contact Jackie Sandefter-Gonsen@850-901-6344 or [Jackie.Sandefter-Gonsen@flhealth.gov](mailto:Jackie.Sandefter-Gonsen@flhealth.gov)***





**Forensic Interview Practice**

**National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC)**

**Components**

**Stage 1 Rapport**

- 1. **Introductions** – Includes introduction of the interviewer to the child, an explanation of the interview and a chance for the child to ask questions or voice concerns
- 2. **Early Engagement** – Allows child to feel comfortable, engage in conversation about neutral topics interesting to the child and learn about the child’s likes/dislikes and everyday life
- 3. **Interview Instructions** – Explain the rules/expectations: correct the interviewer, don’t know/don’t guess, don’t understand and true/real
- 4. **Narrative Practice** – Includes an in-depth discussion of neutral topic(s); “Tell me all about...”; sets the stage for child to answer with narrative responses
- 5. **Family** – Talk about who lives with child

**Stage 2 Substantive Stage**

- 6. **Transition** - Includes open ended and non-leading or suggestive questions; Use more direct prompts if needed
- 7. **Narrative Description** – Elicit a narrative of events
- 8. **Follow-Up Questions** - Includes getting additional details
- 9. **Clarification** – Includes clarifying any previous statements made by the child
- 10. **Closure** - Conclude on a positive note, thank child for his/her effort, give child a chance to ask questions; Can also include a safety assessment for other maltreatment or safety concerns

**Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible**

Flexible

**Evidence-Based**

Yes

**Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines**

- Has training for Spanish speaking forensic interviewers



**National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC) continued**

***Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Training is reviewed and updated annually
- Includes a Mock Court
- Supports second/extended multi session interviews
- Includes Practicum interviews and peer review

***Additional Comments***

- Reviewed annually

***Recorded/Not Recorded***

Recorded

***Written Report/No Report***

No Report

***Cost of Training***

- **Early Registration:** \$1149; **Standard:** \$1249 for onsite training in Huntsville
- \$1800 per day for up to 15 people for **5-day customized Training at your location** or \$2500 per day for up to 30 people plus travel expenses for trainer(s)
- Also, offer a 4-day training at your location without the legal training and a 3-day training at your location without the legal training and practicum interviews

***National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved***

Yes

Resources:

Garrison, Amy, Training Program Manager, National Children’s Advocacy Center (NCAC), Huntsville, AL.  
Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen. Aug. 30, 2017.



## National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC) continued

National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC). (2015). *Forensic Interview Structure*. Retrieved from <file:///H:/CPT/FI%20Protocol%20Task%20Force/NCAC/NCAC%202015-fi-structure.pdf>. Sept. 14, 2017.

National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC). *NCAC Position Paper on the Use of Human Figure Drawings in Forensic Interviews*. Mar. 2017, Retrieved from <file:///H:/CPT/FI%20Protocol%20Task%20Force/NCAC/NCAC%20position-paper-human-figure-drawings.pdf>. Sept. 14, 2017.

***For more information, please contact Amy Garrison, Training Program Manager at 256-327-3748 or [agarrison@nationalcac.org](mailto:agarrison@nationalcac.org)***



## Forensic Interview Practice

National Institute for Child & Human Development (NICHD)/Revised NICHD Protocol

### Components

#### **Pre-Substantive Phase:**

- 1. Introductory Phase** - Includes introduction of self to child, telling the child to tell events in detail, to tell the truth (can include truth/lie ritual) and an explanation of ground rules (don't remember, don't understand, don't know and correct the interviewer if interviewer is wrong)
- 2. Rapport Phase** - Includes building rapport and narrative practice
- 3. Transitional Phase** - Includes non-leading and non-suggestive prompts to transition to the target topic

#### **Substantive Phase:**

- 1. Free Recall Phase** - Done after the child makes an allegation

**Closure Phase:** End respectfully

### Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible

Structured

### Evidence-Based

Yes, it has the strongest evidence-based studies than any other forensic interview models/structures/etc.; research has also been done regarding the best ways to train people on how to use the protocol

### Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

- Original protocol geared toward children who have already made a disclosure, or children who are in active disclosure; revised protocol includes same components but is geared toward reluctant children; revised protocol uses nonsuggestive support
- Supports using second interviews - Only field study to date that found that during a second interview using the NICHD protocol, children added 14% new pertinent details and 9% additional contextual details; since this was a field study, the accuracy of information children provided could not be assessed (Hershkowitz, I. and Terner, A. (2007). The Effects of Repeated Interviewing on Children's Forensic Statements of Sexual Abuse. Applied Cognitive Psychology, 21: 1131–1143.)



## National Institute for Child & Human Development (NICHD)/Revised NICHD Protocol continued

### Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Periodically reviews and updates training

### Additional Comments

- Does not address tools to use when interviewing children with developmental delays

### Recorded/Not Recorded

Recorded

### Written Report/No Report

Feels written reports will be based on unreliable memory reconstructions

### Cost of Training

Protocol is freely available at no cost; Basic training cost is unknown

### National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved

NCA has been very supportive of protocol

#### Resources:

Cyr, Mireille. NICHD Protocol: Cutting Edge Practice for Investigative Interviews with Children. Presentation given at the Child Advocacy Centres Knowledge Exchange. Feb. 2011.

Hershkowitz, I. and Turner, A. "The Effects of Repeated Interviewing on Children's Forensic Statements of Sexual Abuse." *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 21: 1131–1143. 2007.

Malloy, Lindsay. Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen. Sept. 19, 2017.



## National Institute for Child & Human Development (NICHD)/Revised NICHD Protocol continued

National Institute for Child & Human Development (NICHD). Revised Investigative Interview Protocol, Version 2014. 2014.

*For more information please contact the following individuals:*

*Dr. Yael Orbach, Adjunct Scientist, NICHD at [yaelorbach1@hotmail.com](mailto:yaelorbach1@hotmail.com)*

*Professor Thomas Lyon, USC University of Southern California at [tlyon@law.usc.edu](mailto:tlyon@law.usc.edu) or <http://works.bepress.com/thomaslyon/>*

*Dr. Lindsay C. Malloy, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Florida International University at [lmalloy@fiu.edu](mailto:lmalloy@fiu.edu)*

*Dr. Stephanie D. Block, Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Massachusetts Lowell at [stephanie\\_block@uml.edu](mailto:stephanie_block@uml.edu) or <http://www.uml.edu/FAHSS/Psychology/faculty/Block-Stephanie.aspx>*



## ***Forensic Interview Practice***

### ***Recognizing Abuse Disclosure Types & Responding (RADAR) - A modification from the National Child & Human Development (NICHD) protocol***

#### ***Components***

- 1. Introduction and Engagement** - Includes introduction of interviewer to the child and rapport building
- 2. Questions about Interviewer** - Invites the child to ask questions of the interviewer
- 3. Orientation** - Includes explanation of any note-taking, video or audio recording
- 4. Rules** - Don't understand, don't know/don't guess, correct the interviewer if interviewer is wrong, truth/lie ritual and eliciting a promise to tell the truth
- 5. Narrative Practice and Narrative Sequencing** - With a neutral topic
- 6. Exploration of Barriers** - Includes asking how the child feels about talking with the interviewer and if the child or someone else is worried about something
- 7. Contract** - Get the child to agree to try and do his/her best while talking to interviewer
- 8. Transition Decision Tree** - Helps to decide what the interviewer's next step should be
- 9. Transition Questions** – Done after assessing possible disclosure; includes open ended, nonleading/nonsuggestive questions, direct abuse focused questions and body safety questions
- 10. Eliciting Details** - Getting detailed information
- 11. Break** – Taking a break
- 12. Additional questions or clarification of prior statements**
- 13. Closure** - Includes giving the child an opportunity to ask questions or to tell more, asking the child about any worries and offering the child the interviewer's contact information
- 14. Neutral Topic** – Ends interview on a neutral topic

#### ***Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible***

Structured - provides partial scripting for inexperienced interviewers and scaffolding for more experienced interviewers

#### ***Evidence-Based***

No information

#### ***Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- Provides partial scripting for inexperienced interviewers and scaffolding for more experienced interviewers



***Recognizing Abuse Disclosure Types & Responding (RADAR) - A modification from the National Child & Human Development (NICHD) protocol continued***

***Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Supports second interview

***Additional Comments***

- An outbranch of NICHD
- For children 5 years old and older, but also has a RADAR JR version for children aged 3 - 5
- Places significant emphasis on forensic balance to help prevent interviewer errors that could lead to false outcomes

***Recorded/Not Recorded***

No information

***Written Report/No Report***

No information

***National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved***

No information

Resources:

Everson, Mark. Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, August 29, 2017.

***For more information please contact Mark Everson at [Mark\\_Everson@med.unc.edu](mailto:Mark_Everson@med.unc.edu)***





## ***Forensic Interview Practice***

### **Step-Wise Approach to Interviewing Children: The Next Generation**

#### ***Components***

- 1. Rapport Building Phase** - Interviewer puts the child at ease, i.e. asks questions about the child's interests; includes interview rules, assessment of cognitive functioning and narrative practice
- 2. Transition to the Topic of Concern** - Begins with open-ended general questions aimed at getting a narrative free recall from the child and is followed by more direct focused questions, as necessary
- 3. End** - Thank the child for participating, allow the child to ask questions and explain to the child what will happen next

#### ***Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible***

Semi-structured - allows adaptations to the child, topic and context

#### ***Evidence-Based***

Yes

#### ***Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- Has a child version, an adult version and a suspect version
- Has an advanced course for adapting it to persons with special needs

#### ***Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines***

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase
- Provides peer review
- Updated with new tools that surface from their clinical practice
- Training includes practical exercises



## Step-Wise Approach to Interviewing Children: The Next Generation continued

### *Additional Comments*

- First protocol to be developed and empirically tested
- Has similarities with National Institute for Child and Human Development (NICHD), but is a little more scripted
- Offers a variety of training programs - 2.5-day basic interview training, 3.5-day child version and 5-day investigation course, course for adults, suspects and persons with special needs

### *Recorded/Not Recorded*

Strongly supports recording interviews

### *Written Report/No Report*

No information

### *Cost of Training*

**Fees:** Varies depending on the relationship being developed

### *National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved*

No

Resources:

Hugues, Hervé, Step-Wise Child Interview – Next Generation, Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, Aug. 31, 2017.

Yuille, John C. Ph.D., Cooper, Barry S. Ph.D. & Hervé, Hugues H.F. Ph.D. “The Step-Wise Guidelines for Child Interviews: The New Generation.” The Pacific Alliance of Forensic Scientists and Practitioners, Ltd., Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, In M. Casonato & Pfafflin (Eds.), Handbook of pedosexuality and forensic science. (in press).

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## *Forensic Interview Practice*

### **Ten Step Investigative Interview Process - Adapted from National Institute for Child and Human Development (NICHD)**

#### *Components*

**Initial Rapport Building Phase** followed by:

1. **Don't Know Instruction** - Don't know something, tell the interviewer
2. **Don't Understand** - Don't understand something, tell the interviewer
3. **You're Wrong Instruction** - If the interviewer says something wrong, tell the interviewer
4. **Ignorant Interviewer Instruction** – “I (interviewer) don't know what happened to you (child) and can't answer my questions”
5. **Promise to tell the truth** - Illicit a promise from the child
6. **Practice Narratives** - Includes things the child likes to do and doesn't like to do, as well as child's last birthday
7. **Allegation** - Open ended questions transitioning to the allegations
8. **Allegation Follow up** - Open ended requests for more information
9. **Follow up** - "Tell me more" and "What happened next" questions
10. **Multiple Incidents** - First time, last time, a time the child remembers the most and another time.

**Closure Phase.**

#### *Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible*

No information

#### *Evidence-Based*

Yes, adapted from NICHD

#### *Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

No information

#### *Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines*

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase



**Ten Step Investigative Interview Process - Adapted from National Institute for Child and Human Development (NICHD) continued**

***Additional Comments***

No information

***Recorded/Not Recorded***

No information

***Written Report/No Report***

No information

***Cost of Training***

No information

***National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved***

Yes

Resources:

Thomas D. Lyon, J.D., Ph.D. "Adaptation of the NICHD Investigative Interview Protocol" (version 2).

From the SelectedWorks of Thomas D. Lyon, BePress, Jan. 2005, Available at

<https://works.bepress.com/thomaslyon/5/>

***For more information please visit <https://works.bepress.com/thomaslyon/5/>***



## Forensic Interview Practice

### The Wisconsin Forensic Interview Guidelines

#### Components

Uses American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) Guidelines

Consists of the following components:

1. **Brief Introduction**
2. **Rapport Building**
3. **Rules**
4. **Agreement**
5. **Narrative Event Practice**
6. **Introduction to the Topic of Concern**
7. **Free Narrative** – Using “funneling” questions
8. **Concluding Interview**

#### Structured/Semi-Structured/Flexible

Structured in regards to having the eight (8) specific components listed above

#### Evidence-Based

APSAC Guidelines are based on experience and empirical research

#### Differences with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

No information

#### Similarities with Other Models/Structures/Protocols/Guidelines

- All models/structures/protocols/guidelines include an initial rapport building phase, a substantive phase (transitioning to the topic of concern and getting details) and a closure phase

#### Additional Comments

No information



## The Wisconsin Forensic Interview Guidelines continued

### Recorded/Not Recorded

Interviews should be recorded

### Written Report/No Report

Law enforcement personnel and child protection personnel may write a report if present for the interview

### Cost of Training

Training is free and presented by the Wisconsin Department of Justice at least twice per year, and it is only available to law enforcement personnel and social workers

### National Children's Alliance (NCA) Approved

Unknown

#### Resources:

Schwantes, Travis, Assistant State Public Defender, Wisconsin State Public Defenders Office.  
Received by Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen, September 26, 2017.

Stilke, Kirsten and Schwantes, Travis. "Interviewing Children" Retrieved from  
<file:///H:/CPT/FI%20Protocol%20Task%20Force/Wisconsin%20Protocol/Wisconsin%20FI%20Protocol.pdf>. Aug. 27, 2017.

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