

**Elements of a Child Abuse Physical Examination  
(with notes of special attention)**

- A. Growth Parameters
- B. General appearance and demeanor
- C. HEENT
  - retinal hemorrhages
  - blue sclerae
  - petechiae of pinnae
  - swelling, or bruising or petechiae of scalp
  - broken hairs, alopecia
  - torn frenulae
  - contused oral mucosa
  - pharyngeal injury
  - dental condition (carries, dentinogenesis imperfecta)
- D. Neck
- E. Chest / Lungs
  - rib masses, crepitation
- F. Heart
- G. Abdomen
- H. Extremities
  - tenderness, swelling, deformity, guarding
  - joint hypermobility
- I. Cutaneous
  - bruises
  - scars
  - pigmentary marks
  - loose distensible skin
  - papyraceous scars
- J. Genitals
  - structure by structure assessment for injury
  - description of anatomy
- K. Anus
  - assessment for injury
  - tone and dilation
- L. Mental Status
- N. Neurological and developmental status