

Shaken Baby Syndrome

What is Shaken Baby Syndrome?

The collection of symptoms that result from an infant or child being violently shaken.

Facts

- ◆ Nearly 50,000 children are shaken yearly.
- ◆ Most of those shaken are under 1 year of age.
- ◆ Many children die.
- ◆ Only 1/3 of those shaken escape without injury.
- ◆ Thousands suffer from permanent injuries such as those listed below:
 - Cerebral Palsy
 - Seizures
 - Blindness
 - Deafness
 - Behavior problems
 - Mental retardation
 - Speech Delays
 - Learning Disabilities

Is crying normal? YES!!!!

- ◆ Crying is the #1 reason why babies are shaken.
- ◆ Babies cry an average of 2-3 hours a day.
- ◆ Babies cry more between 2 & 4 months of age.
- ◆ Peak crying hours are 6pm till 12 midnight.

Who is most likely to shake a child?

According to the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome:

- ◆ 70% of shakers are **MALE**.
- ◆ 62% of shakers are one of the child's **PARENTS**.
- ◆ 20% of shakers are **MOTHER'S BOYFRIEND**.

PREVENTION

The Stark County Health Department with the help of the Injury Prevention Grant is offering Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Education.

- ◆ Classes are currently being offered to High School Health Classes, as well as the Juvenile Attention Center as requested.
- ◆ Mailings are being sent to all parents of newborns.
- ◆ Resource materials about Shaken Baby Syndrome is currently being collected and will be available for loan to individuals from the community.
- ◆ A local video about the prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome will be developed in 2006.

For Further Information about SBS:

The Stark County Health Department

Phone: 330-493-9914

The National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome

Phone: 1-800-627-3399

Web Site: www.dontshake.com

The Shaken Baby Alliance

Phone: 1-817-237-7355

Web Site: www.shakenbaby.com