



Programme Outline

1 day training in rapid response processes

Aim

This 1 day training programme aims to provide participants with the basic skills to carry out an inter-agency investigation into an unexpected childhood death in accordance with the Chapter 7 guidance.

Target Audience

Front line practitioners who will be involved in the Rapid Response processes for unexpected childhood death.

- Police Investigators at DS or DI level (members of the Child Abuse Investigation Unit, or other police investigators from other teams where they are directly involved in the Rapid Response process);
- Paediatricians at consultant or final year specialty training level, and specialist nurses/health visitors who will be directly involved in the rapid response;
- Paramedics;
- Emergency Department staff (both medical and nursing);
- Paediatric and Forensic Pathologists;
- Coroner's Officers;
- Social Workers;
- Bereavement Support Workers

Learning Objectives

After completing this module, participants will be able to:

1. Describe in detail the different components of the rapid response to an unexpected childhood death;
2. Discuss their role and that of other professionals involved in the process;
3. Collect and share relevant information for the investigation through the taking of a thorough history, review of background information from their own or other agencies, and evaluation of the scene and circumstances of a child's death;
4. Explain to families the purpose and process of the rapid response, including what will happen to their child;
5. Collate and evaluate information from the investigation in the light of knowledge of nature and causes of unexpected childhood death;
6. Recognise and respond appropriately where there are suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of a child.

Teaching Methods

1. Previous attendance at training module A, or review of Why Jason Died DVD.
2. Individual learning prior to attending (2 hours reading/ on-line learning resource).
3. New concepts will be taught following the basic pattern of Introduce – Repeat – Practice/Apply .
4. Brief presentations (including relevant video clips)
5. Group activities based on case studies.
6. Ongoing learning and practice evaluation.



Programme (Core / Optional)

1	Prior individual learning – participants will be sent pre-course material 2-3 weeks in advance (also available on-line):	
	a) background reading on: patterns and causes of unexpected childhood death; responding when a child dies; supporting families	(1 hour)
	b) view <i>Why Jason Died</i> if not done already	(20 min)
2	Introduction – welcome	15 min
3	Overview of the Rapid Response (presentation and questions)	45 min
4	Group activity – SUDI case study	1 hour
5	Group feedback and questions	30 min
6	Information gathering: history, examination, scene examination (presentation and questions)	45 min
7	Communicating with families (group exercise)	30 min
8	Case discussions (presentation)	20 min
9	Collating and evaluating information (group exercise)	40 min
10	Group activity - Unexpected deaths in older children	1 hour
11	Summary, Evaluation and suggestions for further learning	15 min

This provides for 6 hours of actual learning time. With two 20 min coffee/tea breaks and a 50 min lunch break, that would equate to a 7 hour day (9 am – 4.30 pm). It could be shortened by cutting the group activities (4 and 10) by 15 minutes each.

The programme could be adapted according to the nature and experience of the participants, Supplementary material could be used, drawing on local expertise or extra presentations from the website.

Optional extra material

Resources

1. Facilitators' notes
2. Background reading
 - a) Patterns and causes of unexpected childhood death
 - b) Responding when a child dies
 - c) Supporting families
 - d) Specific information for different professionals
3. Powerpoint presentation on rapid response overview plus facilitators' notes and handout
4. Video clip from *Why Jason Died* to support presentations; introduce group work
5. SUDI Case study; questions and prompts for group work; handouts
6. Powerpoint presentation on gathering information plus facilitators' notes and handout

7. Group work on communicating with families – facilitators' notes
8. Powerpoint presentation on case discussions plus facilitators' notes and handout
9. Handouts and presentation for group exercise on collating and evaluating information
10. Case studies on unexpected deaths in older children - facilitators' notes and handouts
11. Evaluation and feedback sheets