



child protection team
Children's Medical Services

Child Protection Teams

The Children's Medical Services **Child Protection Team (CPT)** program is a medically directed, multidisciplinary statewide program designed to supplement the child protective investigation activities of local Sheriff's offices and the Department of Children and Family Services in complex cases of child abuse and neglect.

The Child Protection Team program operates on the belief that child abuse and neglect is a multifaceted problem requiring multidisciplinary evaluation. Child protection teams provide expertise in evaluating alleged maltreatments of child abuse and neglect, assessing risk and protective factors, and providing recommendations for interventions to protect children and enhance their caregiver's capacity to provide a safer environment when possible.

Services Provided FY 08-09	
Reports reviewed:	186,533
Trainings Provided:	1,615
Children served:	28,791
Total services:	44,002
Breakdown:	
Medical Evaluation	14,226
Medical Consultation	3,196
Specialized Interviews	17,425
Forensic Interviews	5,606
Psychosocial Evaluation	614
Psychological Evaluation & Consultation	397
Multidisciplinary Staffing	1837
Court Activity	695

Suspicion of child maltreatment reported to the Florida Abuse Hotline and accepted for investigation provides automatic eligibility for Child Protection Team assessment activities. There are no financial criteria for team services.

Upon acceptance of a referral from the Department of Children and Families or law enforcement, the child protection teams may provide one or more of the following services:

- Medical diagnosis and evaluation
- Nursing assessments
- Child and family assessments
- Multidisciplinary staffing
- Psychological and psychiatric evaluations
- Specialized and forensic interviews
- Expert court testimony

Additionally, child protection team staff provide:

- Training for child protection investigators and other community providers of child welfare services.
- Training for emergency room staff and other medical providers in the community

