

## Details Examination of Pippa by consultant Paediatrician & Medical Report

We initially asked if we could take Pippa to be examined by our local well respected and trusted GP practice in the hope that they would tell social services that any fool could see that Pippa was not an abused child. Pippa was examined by Dr Ritesh Dua at Weobley Surgery on Friday Evening. During the examination Dr Dua contacted Dr Merrick, consultant Paediatrician for help.

On the Saturday Morning Dr Merrick examined Pippa and we were completely vindicated. "I cannot find a pattern of bruising that would concern me" & "No investigations were necessary"

*Sarah Atkinson is a standby Social Worker with the Emergency Duty Team (the team that works outside of normal office hours, i.e. evenings and weekends) based in Worcester.*

*We visited the Hospital on a Saturday morning. The social worker sat in the corner of the examination room observing throughout Dr Merrick's examination.*

### Contact with EDT: EDT visit report

16/05/2015 at 18:24

Child's name: Pippa McGeon - dob 10/08/11

Date: 16/05/15

Type: EDT visit to Hereford Hospital

Purpose: Consultant Paediatrician medical

All persons present - Parents - Jim & Megan, Pippa and Freya McGeon, Dr Merrick (Consultant Paediatrician)

I arrived at Hereford Hospital at 10:45am, parents and children were already there

(Children's Ward). Explained I was SW from EDT and was there to be present for the medical.

Both children were dressed in summer dresses; they were clean and very well behaved. They were happy engaging children. Parents came well prepared with books, toys, drink and food for both girls.

Megan told me about an incident at Pippa's nursery where she had 'joked' and raised her hand at a boy that was misbehaving, she said that in her view it was all taken out of context and had 'got a bit silly'. Relationships have broken down with nursery and since then they (parents) feel that nursery have been raising concerns about them physically abusing Pippa, which they say is not true.

Both girls seemed happy in their parents care, going to them both equally during the time I was with them. Both have good vocabulary for their respective ages.

Dr Merrick undertook his examination, which parents consented to and signed hospital forms to that effect. Pippa had various bruises and marks, many of which parents had clear & reasonable explanations for i.e. on a slide, a swing, the gate, a wall at a church in Leominster, the cot bed. Most of the marks were on Pippa's arm and legs.

Pippa was able to say how she did some of them - which were consistent with parents.

None of the marks to my mind were anything other than those a boisterous 3 years old child may get whilst playing, running etc.

Dr Merrick was of the same view and neither of us believed this was a child protection matter.

I had to leave as had another EDT call out, so Dr Merrick said he would inform the parents that he did not have any concerns.

Sarah Atkinson  
EDT standby SW

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**Name:** Phillipa McGeown  
**Address:** 1 Newton Cottages Weobley HR4 8QX  
**DOB:** 10/08/2011  
**RLQ:** RLQ1212884  
**NHS No:** 7092405963  
**GP:** Dr R Dua The Surgery Gadbridge Road Weobley Herefordshire HR4 8SN

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My name is Simon Meyrick, Consultant Paediatrician at Hereford County Hospital. I have been in this position since 1998 during which time I have undertaken child protection medicals and recent Level 3 Herefordshire Safeguarding updates.

I saw Phillipa in Children's Out-patients at Hereford County Hospital on 16th May 2015 at approximately 11:30 am. The child protection medical had been arranged from the previous day. I initially heard about this little girl when I was contacted by the GP (Dr Ritesh Dua) at almost 18:00 hours. He gave the story that the nursery had contacted Social Services who in turn then contacted the family and asked that they present the child for a child protection medical. They preferred to attend the GP and this was arranged. The GP contacted me when he saw the bruising. At that time Dr Dua felt that the family was not known or a concern to the GP practice. He did mention, when I asked about the past medical history, of 2 episodes of pulled elbow that had occurred. He also reported that the nursery had other concerns about the parental handling of Phillipa and hence the referral had been made. Following my conversation with Dr Dua I contacted the Emergency Duty Team and went through the history. They eventually tracked down Phillipa's case on file and there was a concern that the 3 bruises that the school had reported were on the left arm, but Dr Dua's report was that the bruises he noted and the picture he had sent me by nhs.net were on the right arm. Social Services discussed, I believe, with the police that evening and agreed that it was appropriate to undertake the child protection medical on 16 05 15.

Phillippa was accompanied to the medical by her mum (Megan) and her dad (James) and also Sarah Atkinson from the Emergency Duty Team. Sarah was not familiar with the details of the case and so was not able to add any more than I already knew. All above were present during the history taking and the medical. Consent was obtained from Megan.

First of all I took a history from mum and dad. Dad said that Phillipa attends Dilwyn Play Group and that the play group had submitted a MARF form outlining their concerns about Megan's handling of Phillipa but also her attitude towards managing behaviour problems at the play group. Social Services were then alerted to the bruises noted and hence a social worker visiting the McGowan's at home showing them the MARF form. The parents in my meeting with them agreed that they enjoy a healthy, rough and tumble lifestyle. They also added that they were not clear on who would undertake the physical examination and thought that it was going to be a social worker rather than a medical practitioner and hence they elected for the local GP surgery to undertake the medical on the 15th May.

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They were not able to be specific about any of the bruises on the arms that were concerning to the nursery and they said that the children often play with toys and sticks at home. There was one bruise that they had reported as an incident during a time in the swimming pool when Phillippa had become entangled in lane markers. Mum said that approximately 10 days ago she had made a grab for Phillippa when Phillippa was in the outside play area at play group and seemed unsteady on a swing. Phillippa leaned her full weight into her mum and she grabbed her. She cannot recall whether she grabbed her by the body or arms. There was a scab on the ventral aspect of her left foot which they recalled as having occurred when Phillippa tripped over on a path at home. There was a horizontal scratch on her back which had occurred when she was getting out of a playhouse. She has a birth mark in the area of her right elbow.

Phillippa is one of two children in the family. Both parents and children are healthy. There were no problems with the pregnancy. Phillippa was a home birth. She is fully immunised and her development is appropriate for her age.

In her past the only significant things to note are pulled elbow on at least 2 occasions. The first occasion was at the age of approximately 18 months when her arm became entrapped down between the cushions of a sofa. They attended A & E immediately and the elbow was replaced. Again it occurred (unsure of date) whilst on a family day out on the Severn Valley Railway in Kidderminster. They attended Kidderminster hospital and the arm was replaced. It occurred again at home when they attended the local GP surgery and the arm was replaced on that occasion. There is nothing else of note. Mum occasionally uses appropriate cream for treatment of thrush in Phillippa's nappy area.

On examination Phillippa was well grown, height 109cm, weight 22.5kg. She was clean and well clothed. She was very proud of her sunglasses and played extremely enthusiastically with her sister with whom she had a very good relationship, as she did with her mum and dad in the clinic setting. Her development was appropriate for her age.

General examination of chest, cardiovascular system and abdomen were normal. Her mouth and teeth were fine. I enclose a body map and commentary below of the relevant findings.

- Indicated mark A - mid right forearm fading brown bruise 1cm x 1cm.
- Just above on the right arm 0.5cm x 0.5cm slightly darker bruise.
- Right elbow 0.25cm x 0.25cm - ? occurred on coming down the slide.
- Left elbow - red birthmark and just below with 1cm x 0.5cm fading, brown bruise.
- Left shoulder - 0.5cm x 0.5cm fading, brown bruise with a scratch just above and lateral (mark B).
- Right upper outer thigh - 6cm x 1.5cm bruise with superficial scratch - swimming baths.
- Scar inner right knee - occurred on cot when very young.
- Scab - central aspect left foot - trip on path.
- Several fading bruises around knees.
- Back - scratch (getting out of playhouse in Leominster).
- Ears - centre of the pinna a small scratch in each pinna.

I have indicated A and B as ones that are similar colour and may be an asymmetrical grab, such as in the play group play area that mum describes. There were no other bruises or marks that were in a pattern that would be associated with grabbing the front and back of the arm or leg or body. There were no marks or bruises on the body or on the head or neck.

In summary, I cannot find a pattern of bruising that would concern me. There are several bruises of different colours. Phillippa is certainly a girl who plays very enthusiastically with her sister. She seems to have a good relationship with her sister and both parents.

I discussed my findings with Sarah Atkinson who was present throughout and agreed that there was no reason why Phillippa should be detained and was fine to be allowed home with the family. No investigations were necessary.

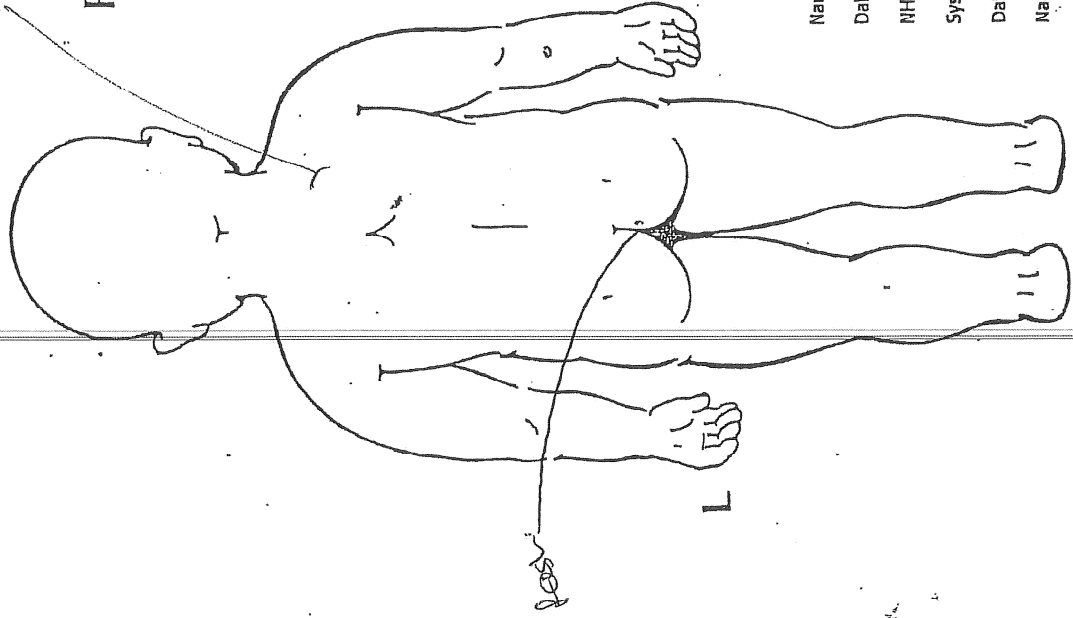
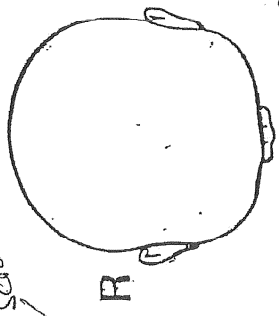
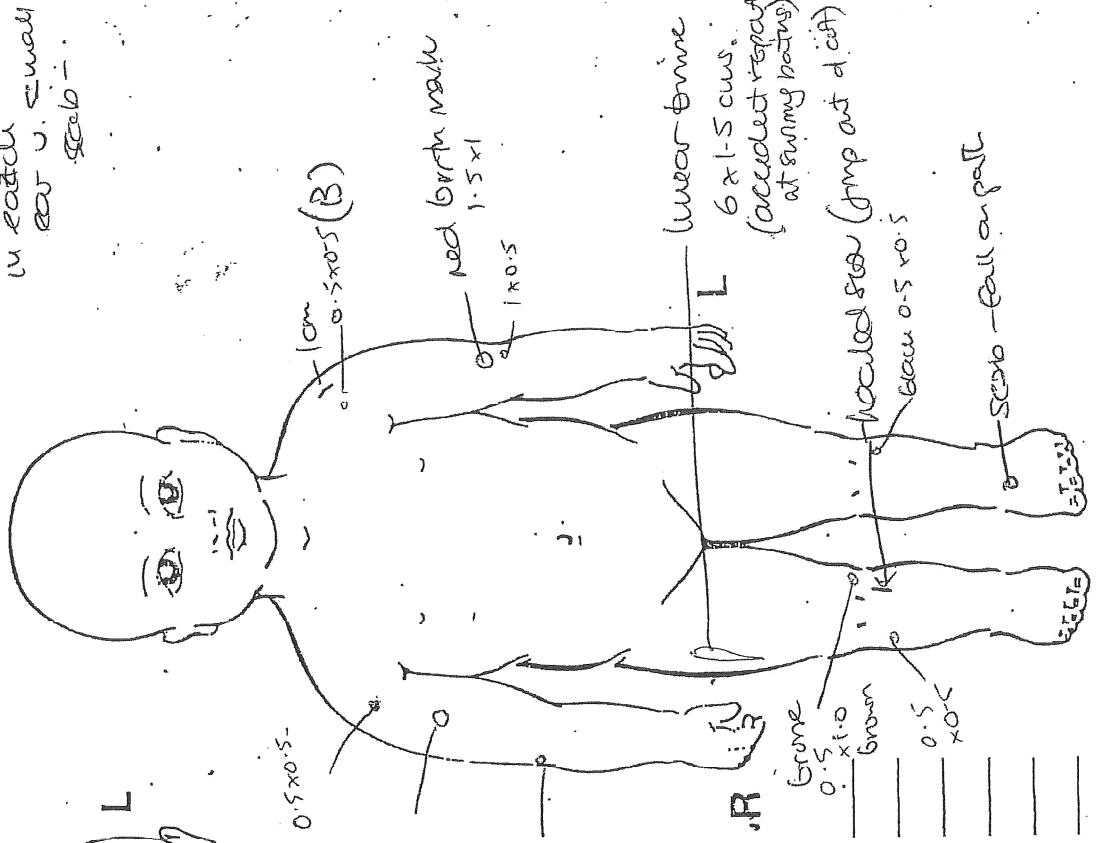
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BY Dr Simon Meyrick on Tue May 19, 2015 16:39:06

**Dr S Meyrick**  
**Consultant Paediatrician**

Copies next page .....

in sketch  
R/U small  
scab -

Scrub (out of sock)



(A) (x1) cur

0.25 x 0.25

**Mcgeown  
Phillippa**  
1 Newton Cottages  
Weobley  
Hereford  
HR4 8QX



RLQ1212884  
10/08/2011  
Female  
709 240 5963

Name	Date o	MHS N	System	Date C	Name

16.5.15.  
R. Smeeth  
M. M. M. M.