





Babies can't tell us how something happened. Even a small bruise or mark could mean something is wrong. A health professional (doctor or nurse) will need to check how this happened. They will ask if you know how the bruise or mark happened. They will check whether your baby is unwell. They will also check if someone has hurt them.



## What happens next?

To make sure all babies are safe professionals must follow rules. They might talk to social services and to the police about your baby. This is normal. A health professional (doctor or nurse) will check your baby.

They may need to:

- Take photos of any injury
- Do blood tests to see if your baby is unwell
- Do a CT scan to make sure there is no bleeding or bruising inside their head

- Take x-rays of their bones to make sure they are not broken

You and your baby may need to stay in hospital for a few days. Please bring what you and your baby need (e.g. milk and nappies) to the hospital.

Before you leave hospital everyone needs to know how your baby got the mark or injury.

You will be given support if you need it.

## After your baby has been checked.

You will be told what the tests have shown.

Your Health Visitor and GP will be told too.

If professionals are worried about the injury, a social worker will help you to keep your baby safe.

