

Bedside Nurse's Role in the Program

1. Share and discuss the "Understanding Shaken Baby Syndrome," flyer with parents or guardians.
2. Have parents or guardians watch the SBS DVD "When Babies Cry."
3. Answer any questions parents or guardians have and listen to their concerns.
4. Review the commitment statement with the parents or guardians. Explain that a nurse will be calling them in seven months to check in and provide support.
5. If the parent agrees, ask the parent to sign the commitment statement and write in the phone numbers and information requested. Even if the parent does not agree to participate with the follow-up phone call, make sure that a patient's sticker is on the consent form, and write "refused" across the form.
6. Place the completed form or the "refused" form in the designated area.
7. Document that parents viewed the SBS DVD and received the SBS flyer.
8. Contact the unit-based educator for your department with questions or concerns.

Script for Bedside Nurses

Use this script when approaching parents or guardians to discuss SBS:

Hello, my name is _____, and I am caring for your baby today.

This is a flyer on shaken baby syndrome; let's look at the flyer together. Shaken baby syndrome is a big problem in this country. It can happen in any family and with any caregiver. With a new baby, parents can lose sleep and feel overwhelmed. It is very easy to get frustrated with a baby that won't stop crying when you have done everything you can think of to make the baby comfortable. (The baby has been fed, changed, and is not sick). The baby is not mad at you. Remember, babies cry. It is what they do.

It is OK to put the baby in his or her crib and walk away. Your baby is safe in the crib. Check on your baby about every 10 minutes. It is far better to let your baby cry in his or her crib than to shake the baby. Shaking a baby will change your baby's life and your life forever. Please share this information with anyone else who will be caring for your baby.

We would like to ask you to sign a commitment letter. Let's look at it together. All you need to do is let us call you in about seven months to see if you still remember this shaken baby information and if you found the DVD and the flyer helpful. You'll need to complete this commitment letter to give us permission to call you. You will also need to fill in some telephone numbers where you can be reached.

Do you have any questions?