

Please contact us if you have questions
If your child or loved one has been a victim of SBS, we can help

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME (SBS)

- Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) is an injurious condition caused by intentional shaking of an infant or child.
- The infant's eyes may get injured and diffuse hemorrhages of both retinas may be present.
- An ophthalmic examination will reveal the extent of the injury inside the eyes.
- Blindness or permanent visual impairment may result from SBS.
- The brain bleeds in many areas from the shaking forces.
- The baby or child may sustain a serious neck injury from the shaking.
- Because of injury to the brain and neck, the child may need a ventilator or breathing machine to assist with respirations until the brain swelling goes down.
- A brain CT scan and/or MRI will reveal the severity of the brain and neck injuries.
- A neurologist may order more tests to identify specific neurological deficits.
- A neurosurgeon may need to do brain surgery to repair the damage and reduce the pressure in the skull.
- The bleeding in the eyes and brain will cause high pressures inside the cranium and globes of the eyes.
- If death does not occur, permanent serious neurological damage will likely be permanent.
- SBS may cause paralysis, deafness, learning disabilities and seizure disorders.
- The infant or child may have seizures.

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- The infant or child will need many medications to help prevent seizures and other health problems associated with SBS.
- An infant or child that has been a victim of SBS may have a poor appetite.
- The infant or child may not be able to eat due to weakness and lethargy.
- The infant may be diagnosed with Failure to Thrive, if SBS has not been properly diagnosed early.
- The infant or child may be weak.
- The infant or child may be irritable.
- The infant or child may have low or excessively high muscle tone in the extremities or trunk.
- The infant or child may appear excessively sleepy.
- The infant or child may have pale skin color.
- The infant or child may have cool skin temperature.
- The infant or child may have difficulty breathing, sudden respiratory arrest.
- The infant's fontanelles may be swollen, depending on the age.
- It is important to remember that there may be no bruising, scrapes or outward signs of physical trauma.
- The infant or child may only have a change in behavior.