



Havering 7 Minute briefing

Was Not Brought

<p>1. What is it? Appointments Missed!</p>	<p>5. Missing Appointments Matter!</p>
<p>Parents and those with Parental Responsibility are responsible for ensuring a child is brought to all health appointments. In most cases, when a child has cancelled or failed to attend an appointment, it is the parent/carer that has failed to bring them and for this reason the term “Was Not Brought (WNB)” should be used.</p>	<p>Remember disengagement is a key risk factor for children and may be an indicator of a crisis or that something more serious that is happening. Retain professional curiosity and consider the reason for the failed appointment. Consideration should also be given to the reason why parents/carers may disengage with services as this will inform the course of action to take e.g., distrust or fear of health professionals. Cancellation or failure to bring a child to key appointments may be an indicator of neglect, which is a form of abuse. Failure to attend appointments is often seen in safeguarding reviews. Use your professional judgement: one or two appointments could be critical!</p>
<p>2. Consent</p> <p>It is recognised that in adolescence or adulthood, the person may choose not to attend. In this case consideration should be given to whether the person is putting themselves at risk of significant harm by failing to attend. Consider the child’s ability to decide (based on their level of maturity, knowledge and understanding regarding the implications of their decision); and the issue itself- maturity to consent depends on the significance and understanding of the decision and its implications.</p>	<p>6. Neglect?</p> <p>If you have noted frequent WNBs and have made attempts to make appointments more accessible, then please speak to your Safeguarding Lead. A safeguarding referral maybe required. Discuss at the practice meeting with the multi-agency group involved, in relation to any concerns around WNBs. Are these indicators of neglect? Ensure safeguarding documentation is completed as advised in the guidance, including a MARF to Children’s Services if required.</p>
<p>3. Accessibility</p> <p>Practitioners should ensure appointments are accessible to families. That the timing of appointments/home visits and the location of services, optimise the opportunities for people to take into consideration knowledge of their history. Services should ensure that there is provision for a person to access support/care without a carer in attendance, if they wish to do this and they have capacity. Maybe transport needs to be considered or financial support.</p>	<p>7. Resources</p> <p>RCGP Guidance click the link below RCGP Guidance</p> <p>Short Videos (child focused) Rethinking "Did Not Attend"</p> <p>Missing Appointments Matter</p> <p>https://vimeo.com/user21885323/review/261475016/74de9dc0e8</p>
<p>4. Next Steps</p> <p>Firstly call the parent / carer/ family. If within a reasonable timescale, rearrange the appointment, perhaps in an alternative setting, if possible. ‘Was not brought’ can relate to the parents/carer’s behaviour, for example: mental health issue, substance misuse or domestic violence. Look at the impact of the failed appointment on the health and well-being of the child and the parents/carer’s ability to provide adequate care for them. Record any discussions with the individual and/or family/carers, other professionals, the actions, and outcomes relating to the concerns. Early Years settings and Schools may be able to try a home visit.</p>	<p>Children’s Neglect Strategy</p> <p>Refer to Havering Early Help Portal here</p>