

SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME



Sudden Infant Death Syndrome is sudden death, without apparent cause, during sleep. It affects infants usually less than six months of age. It may be difficult to differentiate from suspected child abuse.



1. Perform CPR, unless obvious signs of death.
2. Apply cardiac monitor. Treat arrhythmias appropriately.
3. Support parents and avoid questions or comments that suggest blame.
4. Observe and carefully note:
 - ✓ Location and position of child
 - ✓ Objects immediately surrounding child
 - ✓ Behavior of all adults present
 - ✓ Explanations provided
 - ✓ Vomitus or foreign body in mouth, if present
5. Report all observations to Medical Control, County Coroner, or Law Enforcement.