

Broken femur baby

A 2 month old child is brought to your A&E department with a grossly swollen right upper leg. It has been X-rayed from triage and this shows a fractured femur. Mum says she rolled off the bed when she wasn't looking.

Apart from analgesia (next question) what would be your approach to the child? (1 mark)

*ABCD. Check in particular CRT and other C indices. Gain iv access. Oxygen*

What analgesia could you provide for the child (3 marks)

*Splinting*

*Iv opiates*

*Femoral nerve block/catheter*

The nurse says this sounds like a suspicious injury. What features in the history would make you suspect non-accidental injury? (2 marks)

*Delay in presentation*

*History inconsistent with development*

*Injuries inconsistent with history*

*Vague history*

*Changing history*

*Abnormal parental attitude/affect/concern*

*Frequent attendances*

What features in the examination would make you suspect NAI? (2 marks)

*Bilateral bruising esp to the eye*

*Bruising to non-trauma areas eg medial arms and thigh*

*Imprints of belts, teeth, slap*

*Bruising in a pre-toddler*

*Facial petechiae*

What age would you expect a child to do these things? (2 marks)

Roll over                                      *2-4 months*

Sit up                                              *6 months*

Walk alone                                      *1 year*

Have finger-thumb grasp                      *9 months*