

TEN-4-FACESp

Bruising Clinical Decision Rule for Children <4 Years of Age

When is bruising concerning for abuse in children <4 years of age?

If bruising in any of the three components (Regions, Infants, Patterns) is present without a reasonable explanation, strongly consider evaluating for child abuse and/or consulting with an expert in child abuse.

TEN

Torso | Ears | Neck



FACES

Frenulum
Angle of Jaw
Cheeks (*fleshy part*)
Eyelids
Subconjunctivae

REGIONS

4 months
and younger



Any bruise, anywhere

INFANTS

Patterned
bruising



Bruises in specific
patterns like slap, grab
or loop marks

PATTERNS

See the signs

Unexplained bruises in these areas most often result from physical assault.

TEN-4-FACESp is not to diagnose abuse but to function as a screening tool to improve the recognition of potentially abused children with bruising who require further evaluation.

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TEN-4-FACESp was developed and validated by Dr. Mary Clyde Pierce and colleagues.
It is published and available for FREE download at luriechildrens.org/ten-4-facesp.

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