Pathway of care regarding suspected medically induced injury or birth mark including Congenital Dermal Melanocytosis/Slate Grey Naevi (Mongolian Blue Spots)

Differentiation Mongolian Spots from Bruising:

* Typical sites
* **Non-tender**
* Usually homogeneous in colour
* Don’t change colour and take months/years to disappear
* Must always document presence of Mongolian spots, including how extensive, site and shape.

**(refer to photographs for examples)**

If there is further concern that it may be a bruise then immediately:

What are Mongolian Spots?

* Hyperpigmented skin areas
* Usually seen at birth or early life
* Often familial
* Common in children of Asian/African descent
* Rarer in Caucasians
* Usually bluish/slate-grey in colour
* Usually flat and not raised, swollen or inflamed
* Usually round/ovoid but can be triangular, heart-shaped or linear
* Can be single or multiple marks
* Usually on the lower back/sacrum/buttocks
* Trunk, extremities (rarer)
* Face or scalp (extremely rare)
* Usually fade with age

If it is a birth mark or Mongolian Blue Spot record mark in child health records and request review within one week.

Practitioner observes a mark on a child

**Action**:

Check Medical / Health Records to see if mark has been recorded previously. If it has been recorded no further action is required.

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Check Medical / Health Records to see if mark has been recorded previously. If it has been recorded no further action is required.

Practitioner is **concerned** that it may be a bruise rather than birth mark or a Mongolian Blue Spot and the bruise is not consistent with a medical procedure

Action:

Follow the Protocol for Assessment of Bruising in Non-Mobile Children, referring to Children’s Social Care who will then refer to the Hospital Consultant Paediatrician on call.

**Practitioner is confiden**t that it is a birth mark of some type including Mongolian Blue Spots or an injury consistent with a medical procedure e.g cannula/forceps delivery

**Practitioner thinks** it is likely that it is a birth mark, Mongolian Blue Spot or injury consistent with a medical procedure **but is not sure.**

If not recorded, record mark/s using body map in child health records and inform GP of the finding.

If there is no record of the mark, ask GP to see child to clarify whether or not it is a birth mark, Mongolian Blue Spot or an injury consistent with a medical procedure.

GP Assessment