

## *Disciplining a child is one of the more difficult and frustrating tasks parents and caregivers may experience.*

We, at C. S. Mott Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital, believe in positive discipline for children. We discourage physical punishment, such as hitting, slapping, or spanking, as a way to respond to a child's behavior.

Therefore, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital is a "No Hitting Zone" where physical punishment of children is unacceptable.

In keeping with our mission of child advocacy and family-centered care, we are responsible for:

- Providing a safe environment for children
- Creating awareness of alternatives to physical punishment
- Supporting parents and caregivers in guiding their children's behavior
- Reducing negative outcomes for children

Research\* demonstrates that physical punishment may lead to negative effects on children:

- Emotional and behavior problems may develop or worsen
- Children may be physically injured

Staff and faculty members at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital are expected to act in the best interest of children. If you observe a child being hit, you should take action.

If you feel comfortable:

- Provide the parent or caregiver with a brochure
- Inform the parent or caregiver where he or she may obtain further information regarding positive discipline

Sometimes parents just need to step back, gain composure and get out of the child's way to effectively handle a misbehaving or out of control child.

*\*Gershoff, E. T. (2008). Report on Physical Punishment in the United States: What Research Tells Us About Its Effects on Children. Columbus, OH: Center for Effective Discipline.*

Other actions can include:

- Calling a supervisor
- Calling the social work office
- Calling security
- Calling the Child Protection Team
- Direct intervention
- Providing resources
- Reminding parents that we can offer support

Educational materials and further information are available at:

Mott Child Advocacy:

- By calling: 734-936-9837
- By emailing:  
[child-advocacy@med.umich.edu](mailto:child-advocacy@med.umich.edu)
- On the web:  
[www.med.umich.edu/mott/no-hitting](http://www.med.umich.edu/mott/no-hitting)

### RESOURCE LIST

#### CHILD DEVELOPMENT WEBSITE:

- [www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/devnews.htm](http://www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/devnews.htm)

#### FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER:

- [www.med.umich.edu/mott/frc/index.htm](http://www.med.umich.edu/mott/frc/index.htm)

#### BEHAVIORAL ISSUES:

- [www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/adhd.htm#behavior](http://www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/adhd.htm#behavior)

#### PARENTING BOOKS:

- [www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/parent.htm#books](http://www.med.umich.edu/1libr/yourchild/parent.htm#books)

#### MOTT HEALTH CARE TEAM:

- [www.med.umich.edu/mott/pvguide/expect\\_team.html](http://www.med.umich.edu/mott/pvguide/expect_team.html)

#### SOCIAL WORK:

- [www.med.umich.edu/mott/pvguide/support\\_social.html](http://www.med.umich.edu/mott/pvguide/support_social.html)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you need more information contact:

**Mott Advocacy**  
**734-936-9837**

**child-advocacy@med.umich.edu**  
**C.S. Mott Children's Hospital**  
**University of Michigan**

Call security immediately by dialing 6-7890 if, at any time, you:

- Feel a child or others may be in danger of being harmed
- A child is clearly being injured
- A parent or caregiver is ignoring or reacting negatively to your offer of assistance
- Feel threatened

Security is always ready to be present and help in any concerning situation.

Call 911 for emergencies.

### **IMPORTANT AREA PHONE NUMBERS:**

**Hospital Security: 734-936-7890**

**Social Work Office: 734-764-6893**

**Child Protection Team: 734-763-0215**

## NO HITTING ZONE— STAFF AND FACULTY GUIDE



### **U-M Mott Child Advocacy**

U-M C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and Women's Hospital

1500 E. Medical Center Drive

Ann Arbor, MI 48109

734-936-9837 phone

[www.med.umich.edu/mott](http://www.med.umich.edu/mott)

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