

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Child maltreatment: when to suspect maltreatment in under 18s

Technical appendices for report A: formal consensus exercise to define 'independently mobile' NICE guideline CG89

Technical data underpinning report A

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Final

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Appendix A – First consensus questionnaire results:

Statements with percentage agreement and next actions

Following the completion of round 1 voting, the percentage agreement was calculated for all statements using the responses submitted by EWG members in the first consensus questionnaire. Statements were categorised with high, moderate or low agreement according to the following thresholds:

- High agreement: Percentage agreement $\geq 80\%$
- Moderate agreement: Percentage agreement between 60% and 80%
- Low agreement: Percentage agreement $< 60\%$

[Figure 1](#) details each statement, it's percentage agreement and the next actions that were taken in line with the methods of the modified nominal group technique.

Figure 1: First consensus questionnaire results

Statement number	Statement	Percentage agreement	Action to be taken
Independent mobility determined by age			
1	All children aged up to 2 months are not independently mobile	78%	Moderate agreement Statement redrafted
2	All children aged up to 6 months are not independently mobile	22%	Low agreement Statement discarded
3	All children aged up to 9 months are not independently mobile.	0%	Low agreement Statement discarded
Independent mobility determined by physical development milestones			

4	A child who can roll, sit, crawl, bottom shuffle, pull to stand, cruise or walk is independently mobile.	56%	Low agreement Simple changes identified: statement redrafted
5	A child who can sit, crawl, bottom shuffle, pull to stand, cruise or walk is independently mobile. This does not include children who can roll.	11%	Low agreement Statement discarded
6	A child who can crawl, bottom shuffle, pull to stand, cruise or walk is independently mobile. This does not include children who can roll or sit.	22%	Low agreement Statement discarded
7	A child who can crawl, bottom shuffle, pull to stand, cruise or walk is independently mobile. This does not include children who can roll or sit, or children under the age of 6 months.	33%	Low agreement Statement discarded
8	A child who has upright ambulation is independently mobile.	100%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
9	A child who can pull to stand, cruise or walk is independently mobile. This does not include children who can roll, sit, crawl or bottom shuffle.	33%	Low agreement Statement discarded
10	A child who can cruise or walk is independently mobile. This does not include children who can roll, sit, crawl, bottom shuffle or pull to stand.	22%	Low agreement Statement discarded

EWG: Expert Working Group

Appendix B - Second consensus questionnaire results:

Statements with percentage agreement and next actions

Following the completion of round 2 voting, the percentage agreement was calculated for all statements using the responses submitted by EWG members in the second consensus questionnaire. Statements were categorised with high, moderate or low agreement according to the following thresholds:

- High agreement: Percentage agreement $\geq 80\%$
- Moderate agreement: Percentage agreement between 60% and 80%
- Low agreement: Percentage agreement $< 60\%$

[Figure 2](#) details each statement, its percentage agreement and the next actions that were taken in line with the methods of the modified nominal group technique. After the round 2 voting, only statements with high agreement were retained for drafting the definition.

Figure 2: Second consensus questionnaire results

Statement number	Statement	Percentage agreement	Action to be taken
Independent mobility determined by age			
1a	Children aged up to 2 months typically lack the muscle strength, coordination, and neurological maturity needed for independent mobility.	78%	Moderate agreement Statement discarded
1b	Children aged up to 12 weeks typically lack the muscle strength, coordination, and neurological maturity needed for independent mobility.	100%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
Independent mobility determined by physical development milestones			

4	A child who can achieve any of the following physical development milestones should be considered independently mobile:		
a	Voluntary grasping	0%	Low agreement Statement discarded
b	Roll from front to back and/or back to front	67%	Moderate agreement Statement discarded
c	Roll unaided	67%	Moderate agreement Statement discarded
d	Roll across a space	78%	Moderate agreement Statement discarded
e	Sit aided	0%	Low agreement Statement discarded
f	Sit unaided	33%	Low agreement Statement discarded
g	Move to a sitting position	67%	Moderate agreement Statement discarded
h	Crawl	100%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
i	Bottom shuffle	100%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
j	Pull to stand (using an object)	89%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition

k	Pull to stand unaided	88%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
l	Stand unaided	78%	Moderate agreement Statement discarded
m	Cruise (using an object)	89%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
n	Walk with aid	56%	Low agreement Statement discarded
o	Walk (using an object)	89%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
p	Walk unaided	100%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
q	Climb	100%	High agreement Statement retained for drafting a definition
8	A child who has upright ambulation is independently mobile.	100%	High agreement Statement retained from round 1 for drafting a definition

EWG: Expert Working Group

Appendix C - Excluded studies

One systematic review was identified as part of the 2024 exceptional surveillance of child maltreatment as it was considered when developing the guideline. The study was not used to generate statements in the formal consensus exercise and the reason for exclusion is shown in [Table 1](#).

Table 1: Studies excluded from the formal consensus exercise

Study	Reason for exclusion
S Macquire, M K Mann, J Sibert, A Kemp. (2005) Are there patterns of bruising in childhood which are diagnostic or suggestive of abuse? A systematic review. Archives of Disease in Childhood;90(2):182-6	The study did not provide a definition of any terms related to independent mobility. The included studies list was checked for any relevant studies for inclusion in this formal consensus exercise.