



Child Abuse Investigative Support Center (CAISC)

Established by the GBI on August 16, 2000, the Child Abuse Investigative Support Center (CAISC) is a specialized unit within the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Medical Examiner's Office. This unit provides a variety of services to coroners, law enforcement, Department of Family and Children Services personnel, daycares, first responders, and other local/state/federal agencies involved with child maltreatment and/or juvenile death investigations. The main responsibility of the unit is assisting in the investigation of death and/or maltreatment of individuals 17 years of age and younger. The Center's mission is to render support services to all agencies involved in the investigation of child maltreatment.

The Center provides consultations as an investigative tool as well as expert testimony when necessary. In addition, the Center conducts training for any organization free of charge.

Forensic and Investigative Consultations

The Child Abuse Investigative Support Center provides forensic medical consultations in which injuries are evaluated. The child's injuries, medical records, and the social/home environment are reviewed during the consultation. After evaluation, an expert opinion is rendered and a letter detailing the accidental or inflicted nature of the injuries is provided. Expert testimony regarding the opinion is also available as needed.

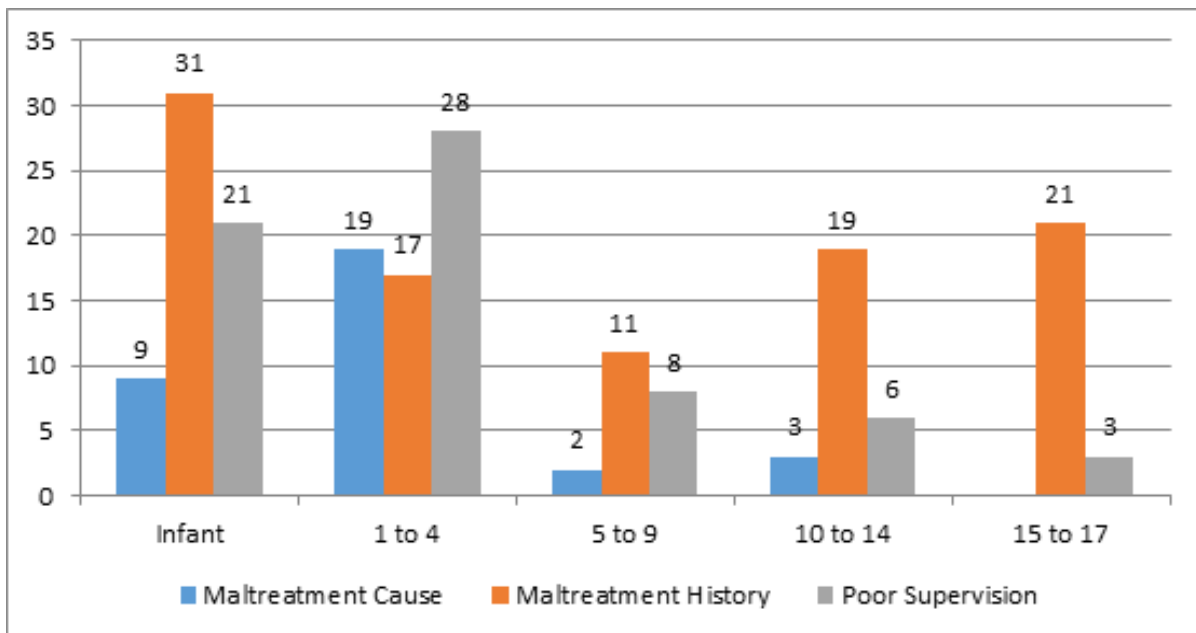
The Child Abuse Investigative Support Center has 15 regional child abuse specialists, one within each of the GBI Regional Field Offices. These agents are available at the request of the district attorney, the police chief, or the sheriff and can provide numerous avenues of assistance with an investigation, including forensic interviews and scene investigations.

Training

The Child Abuse Investigative Support Center provides training on a variety of topics including child abuse, sleep-related infant death investigations, and youth suicide investigations. Trainings are free of charge. Child Abuse Specialists are available for training regarding profiles of child sex offenders, child abduction and homicide, and interviewing victims.

Figure 1: Deaths Related to Maltreatment or Poor Supervision, by Age, GA, 2014 (N=198)

Source: Georgia Child Fatality Review Panel Annual Report 2014



- Maltreatment was the direct cause or contributing factor in 33 deaths. Nine deaths occurred among infants less than 12 months of age, and 19 (58%) were among children age 1-4
- Maltreatment history was reported in 99 deaths (although maltreatment was not the direct cause of death), and 31 of those (31%) were among infants
- Poor supervision was reported in 66 deaths (without any other maltreatment identified). Twenty-one occurred among infants less than 12 months of age, and 28 (42%) were among children age 1-4

Personnel

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Board Certified Medical Examiner and Director of Pediatric Forensic Pathology

Elizabeth Andrews

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