

Paediatric Society of Papua New Guinea

CHILD PROTECTION

The Paediatric Society Papua New Guinea is a child safe organisation. Ensuring children grow up in a safe and secure environment enables their development and health, both immediately and throughout their life.

This is a resource for paediatricians and health care workers to ensure the protection and safety of children.

Child protection in Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea has ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Legislation

This guideline draws upon the following legislation and policy:

- Lukautim Pikinini Act (2015)
- Lukautim Pikinini Policy (2017-2027)
- Adoption of Children Act (1968)
- Juvenile Courts Act (1991)
- Criminal Code (Sexual Offences and Evidence) Act (2002)
- Civil Registry Act (1963)

Department for Community Development and Religion, National Office of Child and Family Services

The Office of Child and Family Services co-ordinates the implementation of the Lukautim Pikinini Act and Policy.

National Department of Health

The National Department of Health (NDOH) includes child protection in health plans, policies, budgets and data. The NDOH is also involved in scaling up Family Support Centres and incorporating a parenting programme for violence prevention in Antenatal care (ANC) and immunisation (EPI) programmes.

Our responsibilities for child safety

Recognising child abuse

Child abuse is defined as all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, perpetrated by any adult, be that person a relative or stranger.

A child should be under the care of a nurturing and responsible adult: a parent or parents, legal guardian(s), or any other person who has the responsibility of care for the child.

The PNG Standard Treatment Manual lists some signs or symptoms that may indicate that abuse or neglect may be occurring or may have occurred in the past.

Responding to child abuse

A child may disclose to an adult that they have been abused. This disclosure may occur to a parent, other relative, or to a professional such as a health care worker or teacher. The response to a child or young person's disclosure of abuse is very important to their ongoing safety and recovery.

Responses should be in the best interests of the child.

Mandatory reporting

Health care professionals and some other professionals¹ are mandated by law to report reasonable suspicion or awareness of possible, likely or actual harm to a child.

¹ Other professionals includes teachers, school principals, social workers, psychologists, family councillors, members of the clergy, lawyers, police officers, community based corrections officers, juvenile justice officers, correctional services officers, community development officers or office workers and operators or employees of early childhood care and development centres.

Reporting procedures

Confidentiality and fair treatment

All reports should be kept confidential and private and investigations should treat all parties fairly.

Support

For children and young people confidential counselling sessions are available through 1-Tok Kaunselin Helpim Lain.

NATION-WIDE

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact		
1-Tok Kaunselin Helpim Lain	Free call nationwide 7.00am-7.00pm	715 08000

NATIONAL CAPITAL DISTRICT

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact			
Boroko Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit (National FSVU Office)	Okari Street, Boroko	7152 7622 7350 9130 7066 4880	7152 7644 7152 7644
Police Emergency	National Capital District	324 4331 324 4329	
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
Family Support Centre, Port Moresby General Hospital	Port Moresby General Hospital 3 Mile	324 8246 324 8245	7094 5283 7601 1668 716 7557
NCD Welfare Services	Veria Street, Gordons Industrial Area	311 2544 7153 6155	7272 1830 7046 6390

BOUGAINVILLE

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact		
North Bougainville Police & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Buka	7335 9488
Central Bougainville Police & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Arawa-Kieta	7272 2782
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact		
Family Support Centre, Buka	Buka Hospital	973 9166
Family Support Centre, Arawa	Arawa Hospital	

CENTRAL

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Bereina Police Station	Bereina, Kairuku District	329 9223
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Kairuku Community Development Office	Kairuku Hiri Administration Building, Kairuku District	7036 9674
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CHIMBU

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Kundiawa Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Kundiawa	535 1322 7126 7742	7128 6069
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Kerowagi Police Station (Crime and Investigation Division)	Kerowagi	7215 6339	7542 6145
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Kundiawa	Kundiawa General Hospital	535 1066 7300 3320	7187 0276
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Family Support Centre, Kerowagi	Kerowagi District Office	7312 7902	
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EASTERN HIGHLANDS

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Goroka Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Goroka Town Police Station, opposite Post Office	532 1222 7319 9765	7156 4248 71082726 79489591
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Goroka	Goroka Base Hospital, Red Kona, Dog Street PO Box 392, Goroka, EHP	532 3838 7261 3733	7108 1774
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EAST NEW BRITAIN

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Kokopo Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Kokopo (off Kokopo-Rabaul Road, behind Kokopo Central)	982 9998 982 9043 982 9022	7254 8881 7046 0603
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
East New Britain Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee (FSVAC)	Community Development Office, Kenabot stage 2, Kokopo	982 9198	7186 3850

EAST SEPIK

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact			
Wewak Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Wewak Town	456 2222	7103 0345
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
Family Support Centre, Wewak	Wewak	458 1387	7295 8633
Family Support Centre, Maprik	Maprik Town	7139 5068	

ENGA

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact			
Wabag Police Station	Wabag	547 1022	
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
Wabag General Hospital	Wabag	547 1233	

GULF

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact			
Kerema Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Kerema Town	7066 8563	
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
Family Support Centre, Kerema	Kerema General Hospital	648 1207	648 1190

HELA

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Tari Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Tari Town	7283 6187
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Tari	Tari Town	7201 2229
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JIWAKA

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Minj Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Minj Police Station	7110 4097
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Minj	Minj	542 0948	7319 2995
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MADANG

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Madang Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Yamauan Street, Madang	7146 1503
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Jomba Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Modilon Road, Madang	422 2222	7140 5386
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Madang	Modilon General Hospital, Modilon Road, Madang	422 2222	7336 0139
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MANUS

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Manus Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	970 9122 7027 6252	7016 0592
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Lorengau Hospital	Lorengau Town	970 9426
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MILNE BAY

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Milne Bay Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	7244 5297	7289 6145
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Alotau	Alotau General Hospital	641 1200
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MOROBE

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Lae Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	7258 0890 7091 8864	7279 7002
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Lae	Angau Memorial Hospital, Markham Road, Lae	473 2191	7349 1914
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Femili PNG	7274 6258	7091 4027
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NEW IRELAND

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Kavieng Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Kavieng Town	984 2223	7298 3619
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Kavieng General Hospital	Kavieng Town	984 2040
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ORO

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Popondetta Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Popondetta	330 7122 629 7122	629 7333 7332 7024
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Popondetta	Popondetta General Hospital	629 7741	
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SANDAUN

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact			
Vanimo Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Vanimo Town	857 1022	7024 4160
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
Family Support Centre, Vanimo	Vanimo General Hospital	457 1080 457 1093	7124 7829

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact			
Mendi Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Opposite BSP, Mendi	549 1600 549 1700 549 1122	549 1353 7057 3273
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
Family Support Centre, Mendi	Pente Street, Mendi	549 1166	7028 5933

WESTERN

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact			
South Fly Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Tabubil	7316 2352	
If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact			
Division for Community Development, Kiunga	Kiunga	7155 4550	
Kiunga Hospital		649 1245	
Tabubil Hospital		649 3275	

WESTERN HIGHLANDS

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Mt Hagen Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Hagen Drive, Mt Hagen	542 1233	7036 6125
		542 1343	7187 2660

If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Family Support Centre, Mt Hagen	Mt. Hagen Hospital	540 1841	7379 1422
		542 2127	7176 3863

WEST NEW BRITAIN

If there an immediate risk of violence or abuse contact

Talasea Police Station & Family and Sexual Violence Unit	Kimbe	7200 2267	7144 1233
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If there is no immediate risk of violence or abuse and further advice is needed contact

Kimbe General Hospital	Kimbe	983 5129	983 5142
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For further contacts in each province see 1-Tok Kaunselin Helpim Lain Service Provider Directory, ChildFund Papua New Guinea