

Section 9 – Neglect and Deprivation Overview

“Neglect is a complex, multifaceted problem that can have profound effects on children.”

- Maureen Black, Ph.D. & Howard Dubowitz, MD

Neglect and child abuse are often combined into the overarching category of child maltreatment. Neglect, however, is a more passive form of child maltreatment that often goes without notice until a major event brings it to light. Often an event of omission rather than one of commission, neglect may be viewed as a lesser endangerment for children. However, long-term, chronic neglect can seriously impact a child affecting every area of life and development, including physical health, social adeptness, and educational success.

Resources in the primary section highlight failure to thrive and the impact of neglectful, unresponsive parent-child relationships. Additional resources cover a range of topics including acts of omission that may lead to neglect, forms of neglect, and the principles of effective prevention/intervention.

- I. This article is a clinical report that focuses on considering, evaluating, and managing failure to thrive when child neglect is present. (See, Block, R.W., Krebs, N.F., the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect, & the Committee on Nutrition, 2005).
- II. This resource is a two-page summary of essential findings from scientific publications regarding child-caregiver interaction and a helpful chart differentiating four types of unresponsive care. (See, Center on the Developing Child, 2012)

