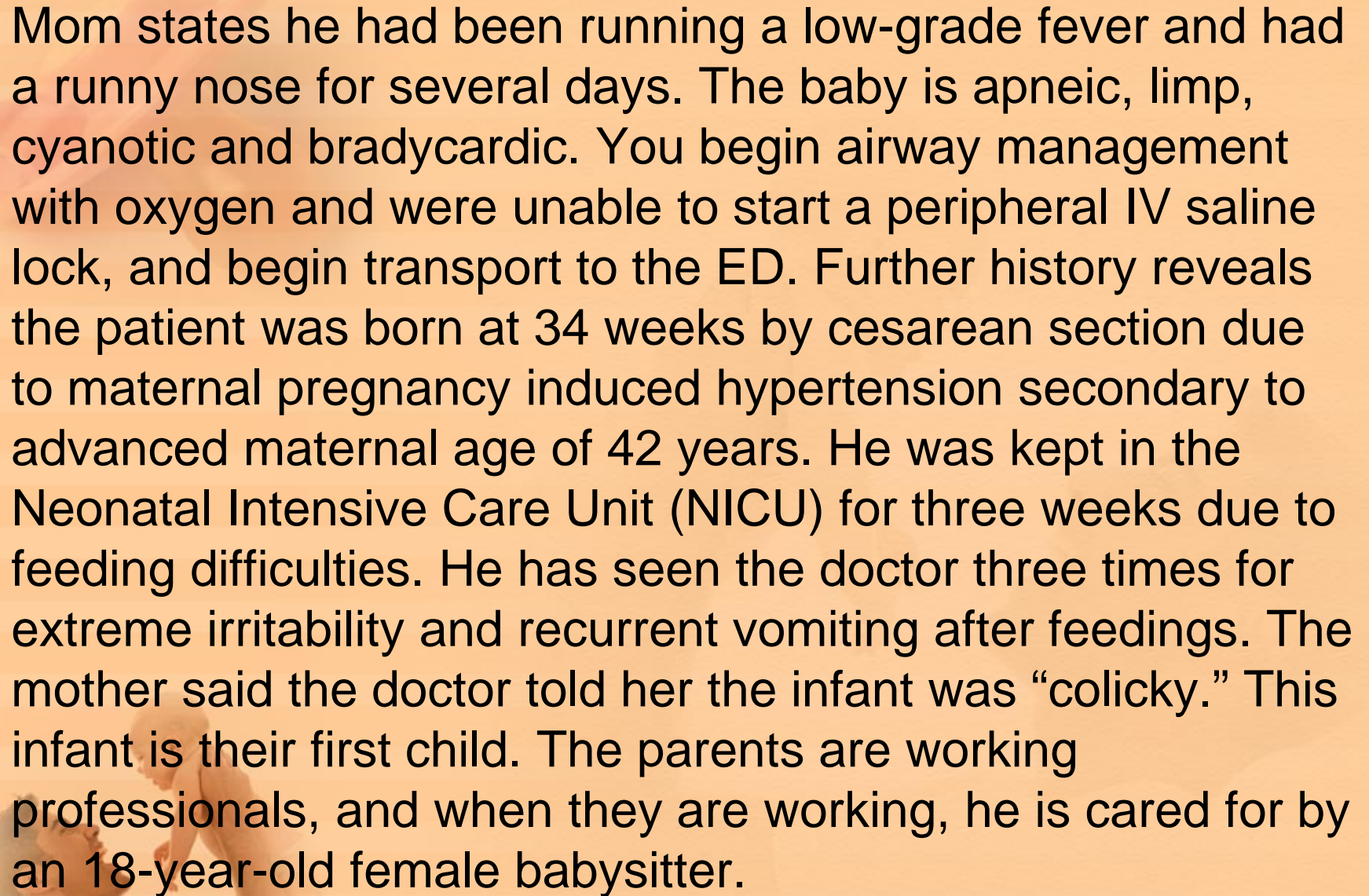


# Ambulance 8 respond to a sick pediatric .....

On a cold January evening you arrive at a private house to find a four-month-old male infant in his mothers arms. Mom is attempting mouth-to-mouth breathing. She reports that she came home from work after the babysitter called saying the baby had vomited three times and was very sleepy. She called EMS when he stopped breathing. According to the babysitter, “He just fainted in my arms.”



A faint, semi-transparent background image of a woman holding a baby. The woman is looking down at the baby, and the baby is being held in her arms. The image is positioned on the left side of the page, behind the text.

Mom states he had been running a low-grade fever and had a runny nose for several days. The baby is apneic, limp, cyanotic and bradycardic. You begin airway management with oxygen and were unable to start a peripheral IV saline lock, and begin transport to the ED. Further history reveals the patient was born at 34 weeks by cesarean section due to maternal pregnancy induced hypertension secondary to advanced maternal age of 42 years. He was kept in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for three weeks due to feeding difficulties. He has seen the doctor three times for extreme irritability and recurrent vomiting after feedings. The mother said the doctor told her the infant was “colicky.” This infant is their first child. The parents are working professionals, and when they are working, he is cared for by an 18-year-old female babysitter.

A six-month-old was left in the care of his mother's boyfriend. He became frustrated with the infant's crying and shook him, resulting in a traumatic brain injury.



A four-month old was left with a child care provider, who was caring for several children in her home. The infant was found unresponsive and taken to a hospital where he was found to be suffering from a traumatic brain injury. The babysitter later admitted to hitting the child's head against a changing table.





# Shaken Baby Syndrome

Also Known as “Abusive Head Trauma”



Please ..... Handle Me With Care

# SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME

Term used to describe the many signs and symptoms resulting from the violent shaking of an infant or young child.



# Shaken Baby Syndrome

- ❖ Violent Whiplash Injury
- ❖ Inflicted, not accidental
- ❖ Result of violently shaking a baby or child
- ❖ Causes severe disabilities or death due to brain injury

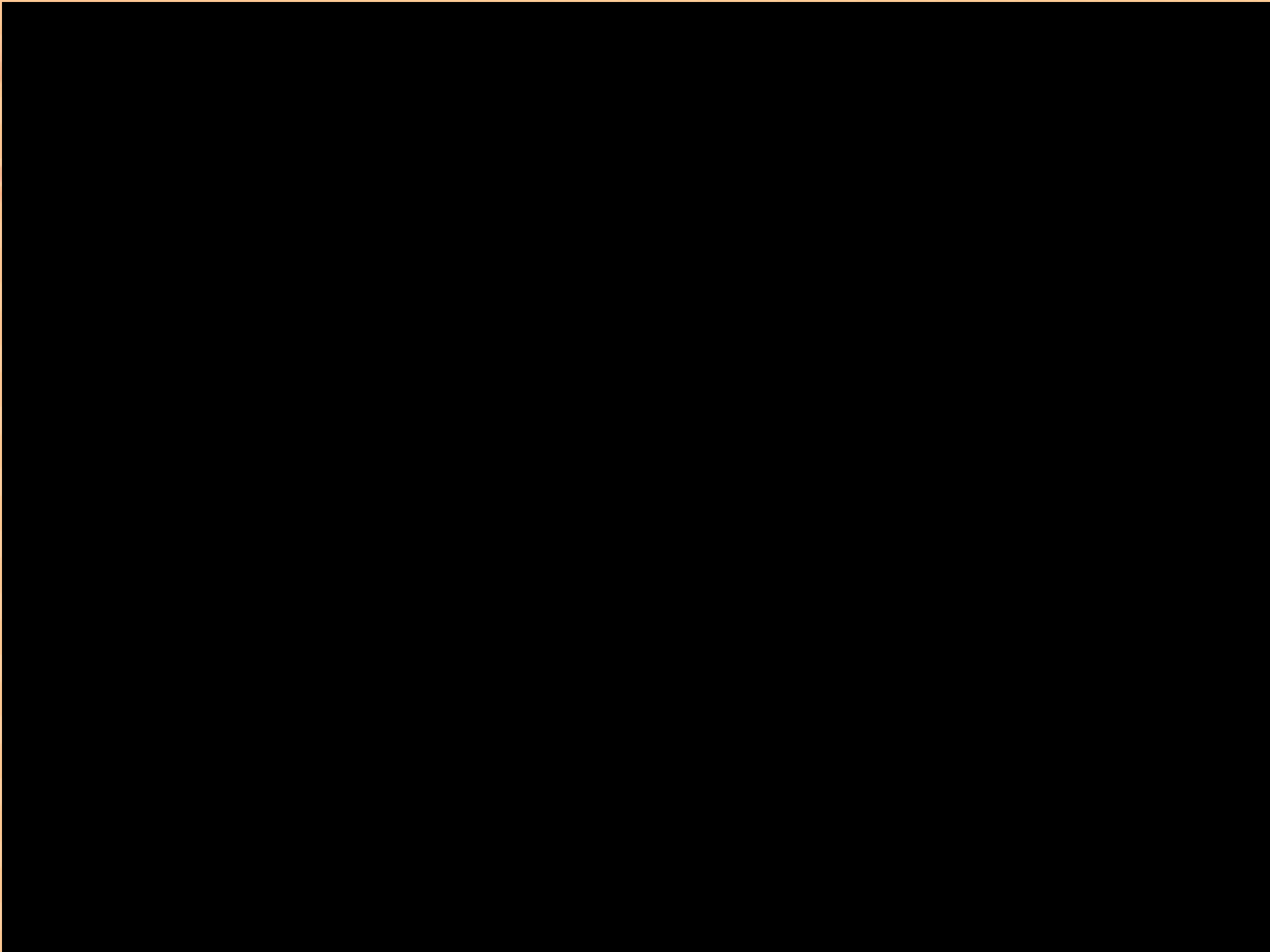




# Shaken Baby Syndrome

Involves the violent shaking or shaking and impacting the head of an infant or young child, usually under 4-years old. These children, especially babies, have very weak neck muscles and do not have support for their heavy heads.





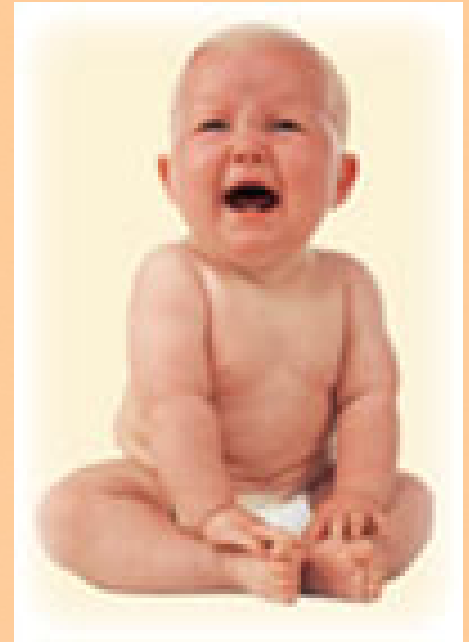
Just in case the video didn't work. 😊

**VIDEO**



# What do BABIES do?

- ❖ Eat
- ❖ Sleep
- ❖ Poop
- ❖ Cry
  - ❖ Most babies cry 2-3 hours a day for the 1st 2 -3 months of life
  - ❖ 5 p.m. to Midnight is often a fussy time



# What do you Know? True or False

1. Babies' heads and bodies are the same proportion as adults.
2. Babies cry an average of 30 minutes a day.
3. More serious injuries are caused by shaking a baby than if the baby fell from a distance of 10 feet.
4. Shaking a baby once can cause death.
5. The medical cost for a baby that is shaken can be thousands of dollars.
6. If you have tried everything and your baby is still crying, it is okay to leave the baby in the crib for a few minutes.



# SIGNS & SYMPTOMS of SBS

- ❖ Concussion
- ❖ Vomiting
- ❖ Irritability
- ❖ Lethargy
- ❖ Trouble feeding
- ❖ Sleepy
- ❖ Coma
- ❖ Seizures
- ❖ AMS
- ❖ Loss of consciousness
- ❖ Loss of vision
- ❖ No breathing
- ❖ Pale or bluish skin



# Risk Factors for Perpetrators

- Young parents
- Inability to cope with stress
- Environment
  - Low socioeconomic status, unemployment, low education
- Poor impulse control
- Males (dad/step-father) most frequent perpetrators
- Unrealistic child rearing expectations
- Depression
- Substance abuse
- Personal history of childhood abuse and neglect
- Negative childhood experiences (Altimier, 2008)



# WHO'S WATCHING THE BABY?



- 50% of Offenders are *Natural Parents*
- 17% are *Non-relatives*
- 17% are *mother's boyfriend*
- 6% are *step parents*
- 10% *other*



“Most people do not intend to hurt the child. They lose their impulse control; they just want the baby to shut up.”  
- Dr. William M. Palmer



# Is Shaken Baby Syndrome Common?

In the United States, SBS is the second most common cause of death due to trauma in children, and the cause of more than 95% of serious head injuries in infants less than one year of age.



# What Happens .....

FIGURE 1

## Acceleration-deceleration injury



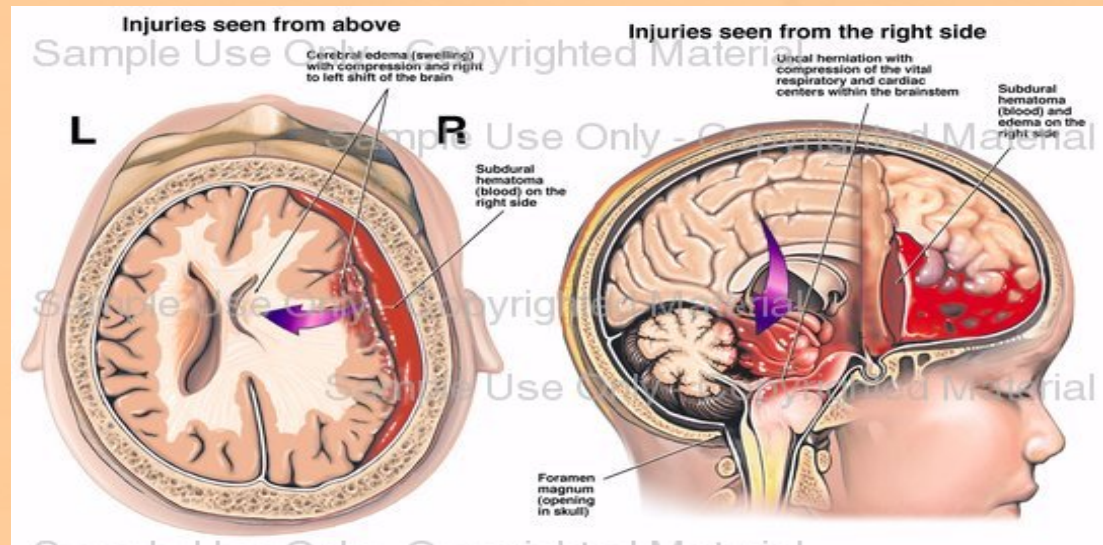
Violent shaking produces acceleration-deceleration forces that cause significant injury to the brain. Rotational forces exerted on the brain result in shear injury.

AMY COLLINS/ART AND SCIENCE

- Forceful shaking causes shearing of the blood vessels in the brain, which can further cause subdural hemorrhage. (Altimier, 2008)

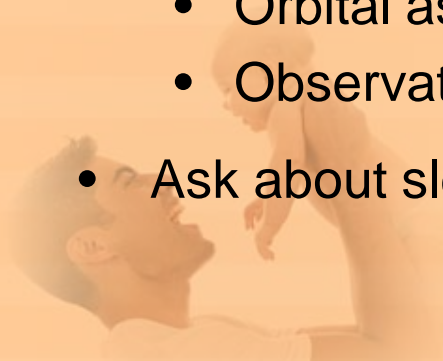
# But I Don't See Any Injuries.

- Hallmark Sign: Absence of/or minimal evidence of external trauma to the head, face, and neck but serious intracranial or intraocular bleeding. (Altimier, 2008)



# EMS Approach to the Shaken Baby

- Often challenging
  - false stories
  - absence or minimal evidence of external trauma
- Perform a complete assessment to prevent serious deadly effects.
- Investigate non-specific symptoms
- Head to Toe Assessment, VS ( incl. temp.).
  - Palpation of fontanel.
  - Orbital assessment
  - Observation for signs of trauma.
- Ask about sleeping/feeding pattern & consolability.



# Jury Sentence for David Allen Austin

“David Allen Austin, 23, receives life in prison for the beating death of his 6 week old daughter Ashley Austin”

He pled guilty to escape the death penalty.



# Lakedra Hill

June 21, 2007

- Arrested and was being held in jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail.
- Accused of causing injuries to her 1-year-old daughter consistent with shaken baby syndrome
- Under Alabama law, aggravated child abuse is a Class B felony that carries a punishment of up to 20 years in prison.



# Brian Deshon Miller

11 month old Fairhope girl who lapsed into a coma on Christmas Eve appears to have been a victim of Shaken Baby Syndrome.







## Ralph Herbert Rammage

3 month old suffers broken leg, bleeding in her brain behind her eyes resulting in almost total loss of vision, loss of hearing, loss of reflexes.....unable to suck and swallow on admission to hospital.

Dad confessed. He became agitated when she wouldn't stop crying

STOP THE  
ABUSE  
Pretty please

