

## Child protection policy of ICH-MHSW-EL

**ICH-MHSW-EL:** ICH is a public sector legal entity (governmental research institute under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Health). As such ICH is mandated by its [founding legislative act](#) Presidential Decree No. 867/07.11.1979, to conduct research, train professionals and provide services to children within a public health perspective and in any case to develop actions for protecting children's health and well-being and promoting child protection in overall. Given the above, ICH-MHSW-EL provides also clinical services to children – victims and their families bind by all existing legislative acts on good practice and safeguarding children's rights as mandated in the current legal framework for all clinical providers of the public health sector in Greece.

Recently ICH-EL has developed a system for assessment of baby-related health services and been assigned as the national reference center for [WHO/UNICEF Baby-Friendly Hospitals Assessments](#). ICH-MHSW (also [Center for the Study and Prevention of CAN](#)) has a clear mandate to provide services for protecting children's rights and especially for the most vulnerable ones. Specializing in providing direct services to children who are or are suspected to be abused or neglected, it has recently published a [national protocol](#) for Diagnosis and Substantiation towards juridical authorities of suspected or alleged cases of children's victimization which covers all major types of child abuse or neglect including detailed curricula for clinical interaction with children-victims or witnesses of violence by all potentially related professionals of the health, welfare, law enforcement, justice and educational sectors. ICH-MHSW is committed to follow this protocol but it is also in a constant effort to train all child-related professionals and services nationwide to apply the protocol at national level.