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Background

The review took place after a 15-year-old young person was removed from their Mothers care due to Fabricated and Induced Illness over a numbers of years.

There was an inconsistent and slow response collectively from agencies to identify and respond to concerns. There was not one particular incident, instead a cumulative effect over at least 4 years.

SSCP have used this case example to consider whole systems approaches to the management of Perplexing Presentations and Fabricated and Induced Illness.

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Safeguarding Concern and Incident

Learning was considered through the following thematic areas:

- Approaches to Perplexing Presentations and Fabricated or Induced Illness
- Maternal Resistance, adversarial presentation and role of the Father
- Child/ young persons voice and lived experience
- Multi-agency working/ joint risk formulation, escalation and supervision
- Impact of Covid-19

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Findings

- There were very early opportunities for PP to be identified
- There was an inconsistency in "Lead Health Professional"
- The CiN and CP plans did not adequately reflect the complexity of concerns
- There was an inconsistent response to adversarial maternal behaviour and complaints

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Findings Cont..

- There was a lack of consideration of the role of the father
- There was a distinct difference of opinion between agencies and lack of application of the escalation pathway
- There was an absence of professional curiosity
- The voice and lived experience of the child was not evident.

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Recommendations

Development and implementation of PP/FII practice guidance to include:

- A clear pathway and access to PP/ FII expertise for advice
- Regular updating of multi-agency training and awareness on FII
- Oversight and alignment of complaints processes

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Recommendations

- The role of the Father/ key male to be a focus of work
- The voice of the child to be a key focus of work
- A review of the escalation processes to consider its effectiveness

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Implementing Change

Progress has commenced in Salford against the areas of learning including:

- Voice of the child- "listening hub"
- Role of the father- "think family" work
- Escalation process review and strengthening oversight.

Development of a PP/FII practice guide is required



Additional Information

Visit: [https://safeguardingchildren.salford.gov.uk/Fabricated or Induced Illness \(FII\) | Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership](https://safeguardingchildren.salford.gov.uk/Fabricated%20or%20Induced%20Illness%20(FII)%20|%20Salford%20Safeguarding%20Children%20Partnership)

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