



PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS
ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND
Information sheet

Parental Alienation – Contact – 7 Days old

Revised: May 2014 - Approved

One Page Only

Other Information Sheets

This sheet is part of the Contact series. All the information sheets on “Contact” should be read together.

The first pamphlet in the series is “1 Page Contact_7_Hours”.

This pamphlet discusses the period seven hours to seven days.

Carers

Mother refers to the biological mother.

Father refers to biological father.

Partner refers to the person living with the primary carer where one biological parent is absent.

Other carer refers to a person caring for the child when both biological parents are absent.

Child Protection Concerns

All efforts possible must be made to protect the child from being accepted into foster care. Some examples used with success in other jurisdictions:

1. Mother and child detained in hospital
2. Mother and child to mother and child facility under supervision
3. Mother and child detained in prison under supervision of trusted and trained prisoners
4. Where mother not available, primary care taken over by father, partner or grandparent.

Near Contact

This is contact that can include short periods of skin to skin contact. In near contact, the child receives regular palpable contact, visible contact,

is in audible range.

Weaning skin to skin contact

Skin to skin contact is replaced in this period to normal “near contact”. As mentioned in the previous pamphlet, skin to skin should be maintained for as long as possible. Some authorities advocate 24 hours skin to skin.

In this period – the child must spend less time with the primary carer, introducing the father.

Skin to skin contact should not be discontinued. At least the bath time and changing time, should be used for skin to skin contact.

Contact Times

The table shows the different types of contact, the suggested minimum and the alienation (abuse) level that should be in place at 7 days. (Values given in hours per day). In this table it is taken that the mother is not breast feeding.

	Minimum	Abuse
Skin to skin	0.5 hour	0.25 hour
Other Palpable	3 hours	2 hours
Audio / visual	5 hours	5 hours

Grieve level

The grieve level for a child at 7 days old is estimated at 6 hours, meaning that if the child does not have near contact with the mother for longer than 6 hours, the grieving commences. (See pamphlet on grieving).

No definite grieving level is known for the father at this stage but one source estimates it at 24 hours.

A partner or an “other carer” can alleviate the grieving but not totally prevent it.