



**ST VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL**
MELBOURNE

A FACILITY OF ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA

When assessing the impact of Mental Illness (MI) on the - PARENT -

Ask the parent about the child's:

- Name and DoB
- Living / custody arrangements
- Concerns about the child's wellbeing
- School / child-care contact details / issues
- Personal style and coping skills
- Friends; Interests
- Strengths; Achievements

Talk with the parent about:

- The impact of the MI on:
 - Parenting role: positives / negatives
 - Child's behaviour, school, friendships
- If he / she has explained the MI to the child?
 - If so, how? If not, why not?
 - Clarify benefits of explaining MI
 - Messages: *'no blame', 'not catching', 'not child's responsibility to be carer'*

**Provide brochures / booklets, support
and referral information**

DOCUMENT



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When assessing the impact of Mental Illness (MI) on the - CHILD -

**** N.B. Has the parent / carer given permission? ****

Talk with the child about:

- Your name and your role
- What is planned to help their parent

Parent MI is:

- No one's fault. You can't *'catch it'*
- Not the child's responsibility to fix

Ask the child about:

- How are school and friends?
- What are their interests / like to do for fun?
- What is their knowledge of the parent's MI?
- Does the child have worries about:
 - The parent?
 - Other things?
- How they cope with worries?
- Who helps them with worries?
- Any other questions they have?

Provide brochures / booklets

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