



# **The Royal Children's Hospital**

Dealing with Occupational Violence

# Agenda

1. The problem

2. Paediatric Issues

3. Solutions



# The Size of the Problem

- In 2004
  - 27 incidents reported to OHS
  - 81 incidents reported to security
- In 2005
  - 4 incidents per month reported to OHS
- Increasing reporting and staff awareness of the risk



# Paediatric Issues

- Very recent emergence of the risk
- Dealing with infants, children, adolescents, parents (developmental considerations)
- Consideration of guardian status
- Increasing acute mental health presentations to ED



# Paediatric Issues cont'd

- Perception of reduced risk compared to adult hospital
- Tensions between delivering family centred care and principles of violence prevention (eg CPTD)
- RCH building infrastructure!!



# Solutions

- A risk assessment was conducted
  - Recommendations were that RCH needed
    - » A policy
    - » Training
    - » To consider design solutions
- Current status
  - Policy developed in draft
  - Funding has been obtained to train all front line staff
  - Opportunity to consider design of new hospital
  - Participate in this forum to learn more!!!

