

## **OP23.2**

### **Neglect: one of our greatest challenges in pediatric care**

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Neglect in a child carries potential medical and mental health long term problems, as significant as children of abusive injuries, such as head trauma. This group of children make up 60% of children requiring community agencies care and up to 70% of the children seen in primary care, for foster care evaluations. When we recognize the potential associated health risks in this population, we can begin to develop approaches to screen and care for them, to reduce the potential long term consequences, as well as to develop methods to work with agencies to assist families in providing a safe, nurturing, consistent environment. This presentation will focus on recognition and discussion of the multiple areas of care needed for this population of children (mental health, dental, etc) and provide a base for planning, within our own communities, for multidisciplinary care for this group of children.