

Barometer of concern

2-5-year-old children



6-10-year-old children



11-14-year-old children/adolescents



Normal behaviour

Exhibit age-appropriate interest in sexuality
Play age-appropriate sexualized games with peers
Play sexual games with other children characterized by equality, reciprocity and curiosity
Touch family members' genitals and breasts
Examine oneself
Play house
Say naughty words
Explore the differences between boys and girls
Examine each other while playing doctor games with a sexual content.
Ask questions about sex and conception
Stimulate oneself by touching genitals or rub them against something
Show off
Can have erection

Exhibit age-appropriate interest in sexuality
Play age-appropriate sexualized games with peers
Play sexualized games with other children characterized by equality, reciprocity and curiosity
Ask questions about genitals, breasts, sexual intercourse and conception
Masturbate in secret
Say naughty words
Dress up as the opposite sex
Do not want anyone to look while using the toilet or getting dressed
Expose private parts in play to appear cool

Exhibit age-appropriate interest in sexuality
Play age-appropriate sexualized games with peers
Masturbate in secret – perhaps in a group of several children
Are strongly interested in the technical issues concerning sex, conception etc.
Love to say naughty words
Do everything to hide their growing sexuality from parents
Do not like it if someone looks while changing clothes or using the toilet.
Surf the internet in sites with a sexual content and show interest for pornography
Have great interest in their own as well as the opposite sex

Behaviour demanding enhanced attention and intervention

Exhibit excessive interest in sexual activities.
Exhibit sexually unacceptable behaviour rather than interest in more age-appropriate activities/games
Exhibit sexual behaviour and curiosity other than most children's sexual behaviour and natural curiosity
Display age-inappropriate knowledge about sexuality, e.g strikingly precocious or adult-like knowledge about sex
Play sexual games leading to complaints from other children
Take part in sexual activities characterized by a rather big difference in age, maturity and intellectuality between the children participating
Play with feces
Sexually "inviting" towards adults
Try repeatedly to get other children or adults to touch their genitals
Lick other children's genitals or encourage other children to do it to them
Attempt to complete genital or anal intercourse
Try repeatedly to put things into their own or others' vagina/anus - in spite of pain and/or reprimands from adults
Obsessed with sex and primus motor in sexual activities
Constantly talk about sex and make sexual drawings
Not capable of changing behavioural pattern in spite of reprimands from adults

Exhibit excessive interest in sexual activities
Exhibit sexually unacceptable behaviour rather than interest in more age-appropriate activities/games
Exhibit sexual behaviour and curiosity other than most children's sexual behaviour and natural curiosity
Exhibit excessive interest in pornography
Display age-inappropriate knowledge about sexuality, e.g. strikingly precocious or adult-like knowledge about sex
Play sexual games leading to complaints from other children
Touch and rub their genitals in public
Bribe, threat or force other children to participate in sexual activities
Take part in sexual activities characterized by a rather big difference in age, maturity and intellectuality between the children participating
Lick other children's genitals or ask other children to do it to them
Attempt to complete sexual intercourse or insert objects into genital or anus
Obsessed with sex and primus motor in sexual activities
Constantly talk about sex and make sexual drawings
Sexually "inviting" towards other children or adults
Rub genitals against furniture, other people etc.
Not capable of changing behavioural pattern in spite of reprimands from adults

Exhibit a sexual behaviour which goes beyond normal limits instead of participating in more age-appropriate activities/games
Play sexual games leading to complaints from other children/adolescents
Play sexual games leading to anxiety, shame and guilt
Bribe, threat or force other children to participate in sexual activities
Take part in sexual activities characterized by a rather big difference in age, maturity and intellectuality between the children participating
Have an excessive consumption of pornography
Speak very openly about sex
Show or publish pictures or movies with sexual content on mobile phone or on the internet
Lick other children's/adolescents' genitals or ask them to do it to them
Attempt to complete genital or anal intercourse
Obsessed with sex – beyond what would be considered as expected for children/adolescents at that age
Not capable of changing behavioural pattern in spite of reprimands from adults

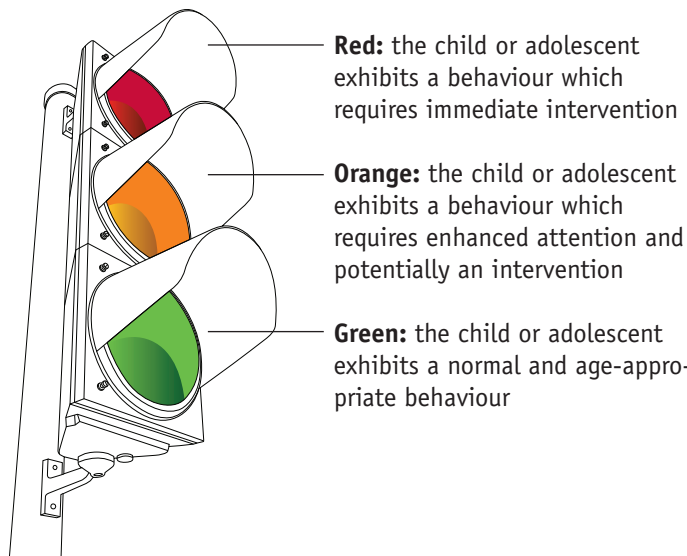
Behaviour demanding immediate intervention

If a victim tells about assaults involving oral, anal or vaginal penetration or other kinds of intimidating assaults
Try to force others to touch their genitals
In spite of pain force objects into own or others vagina or anus
Force other children to play doctor games
Force other children to take off their clothes
Use physical force or threats to get other children to participate in sexual activities
Play gender-role games with a verbally or physically aggressive content
Perform harmful sexual actions towards others
Lure or threaten victims such as weak children into sexual activities
Exhibit sexual behaviour that appears compulsive or aggressive
Perform sexual actions towards other children against their will as a reaction to crises (e.g. domestic violence)
Seem indifferent to whether his/her actions harm or hurt other children or make them unhappy
Sexualized behaviour towards animals

Exhibit compulsive or aggressive sexual behaviour
Perform sexual actions towards other children against their will as a reaction to crises (e.g. domestic violence)
Play gender-role games with a verbal or physical aggressive content
Seem indifferent to whether his/her actions harm or hurt other children or make them unhappy
Big age difference (e.g. 14-year old boy displays sexual behaviour towards a 6-year old)
A victim tells about assaults involving oral, anal or vaginal penetrations or other kinds of intimidating assaults
Are exposed to threats, violence and secrecy
Use physical force or threats to get other children to participate in sexual activities
Strongly dislike one's gender – dissociate oneself from one's gender
Aggressive or burst into tears if anyone is looking while changing clothes or going to the bathroom
Perform harmful sexual actions towards others
Lure or threaten victims such as weak children into sexual activities
Sexualized behaviour towards animals

Big age difference (e.g. 14-year old boy displays sexual behaviour towards a 6-year old)
If a victim tells about assaults involving oral, anal or vaginal penetrations or other kinds of intimidating assaults
Are exposed to threats, violence and secrecy
Force others to sexualized behaviour
Sexually "inviting" towards adults or children
Touch other children's and adults' private parts and expose themselves
Play gender-role games with a verbal or physical aggressive content
Perform harmful sexual actions towards others
Lure or threaten victims such as weak children into sexual activities
Get other children to participate in sexual activities using physical force or threats
Perform sexual actions towards other children against their will as a reaction to crises (e.g. domestic violence)
Seem indifferent to whether his/her actions harm or hurt other children or make them unhappy
Sexualized behaviour towards animals

How to read the barometer of concern:



Red: the child or adolescent exhibits a behaviour which requires immediate intervention

Orange: the child or adolescent exhibits a behaviour which requires enhanced attention and potentially an intervention

Green: the child or adolescent exhibits a normal and age-appropriate behaviour

The purpose of the barometer of concern

The overall purpose is to prevent sexual abuse of children and adolescents committed by children and adolescents and to prevent sexually problematic behaviour exhibited by children and adolescents. This may concern cases of indecent exposure, groping as well as more severe sexual harmful behaviour. A large proportion of children and adolescents with sexually problematic or harmful behaviour have been exposed to abuse themselves. Therefore, it is important to be able to recognize symptoms of sexual problematic behaviour and/or abuse and intervene as soon as possible. The barometer of concern is a guideline for professionals and relatives which can be used in order to differ between normal and concerning sexuality and when to intervene.

Further questions:



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The JanusCentre

The JanusCentre serves to prevent sexual abuse of children through early intervention with children and adolescents who exhibit sexual behaviour problems.

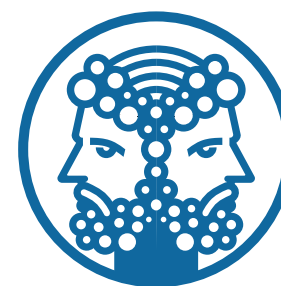
The clinic offers treatment to 4-18 years old boys and girls who have exhibited sexual behaviour problems or sexual harmful behaviour. Furthermore the offer is directed at parents and professionals who have contact with these children.

The JanusCentre offers:

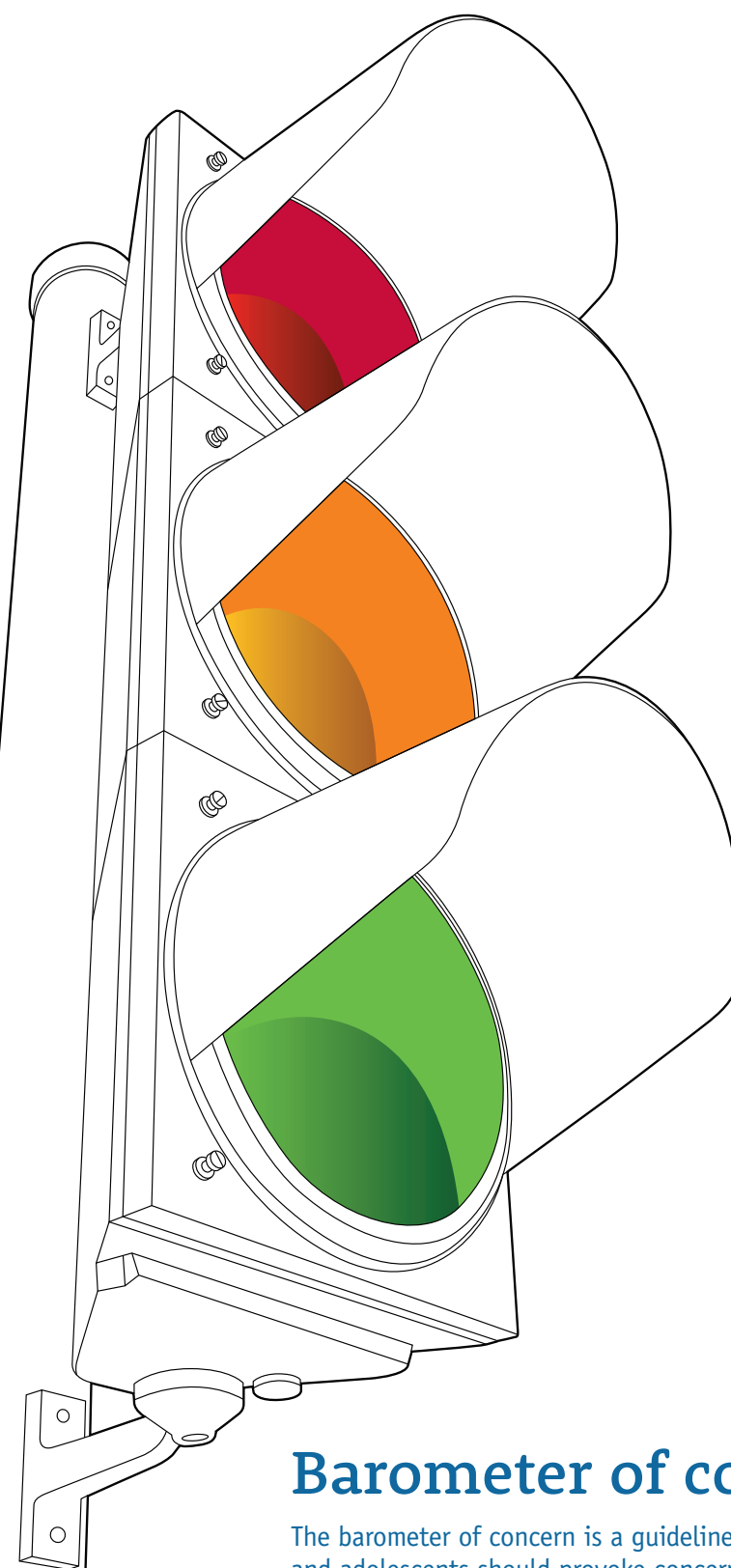
- Psychological and sexual assessment: exploration of difficulties and resources of children and adolescents in order to assess treatment needs
- Assessment of risk of recidivism
- Psychological treatment of children and adolescents and their families, individual and group therapy
- Mediation/Restorative meetings between victim and offender as well as others involved, including parents
- Cooperation/coordination with Social Services and other professionals who might be involved
- Counselling and supervision to professionals who are in contact with children and adolescents who sexually harm others
- Counselling to parents whose child has exhibited sexual harmful behaviour
- Parents Group for parents whose child has exhibited sexual harmful behaviour
- Counselling and supervision to social workers and psychologists who work with children and adolescents with sexual behaviour problems who are placed in children's homes or in foster care
- Seminars, lecturing and education offered to professionals

Children and adolescents are referred to the clinic in close co-operation with the Social Service System.

For further information, visit www.januscentret.dk or call +45 3369 0369



JanusCentret



Barometer of concern

The barometer of concern is a guideline on whether behaviour exhibited by children and adolescents should provoke concern and when to intervene.

Green indicates that the child or adolescent exhibits a normal and age-appropriate behaviour.

Orange indicates that the child or adolescent exhibits a behaviour which requires enhanced attention and potentially an intervention.

Red indicates that the child or adolescent exhibits a behaviour which requires immediate intervention.