



Violence-Free Early Childhood Forum

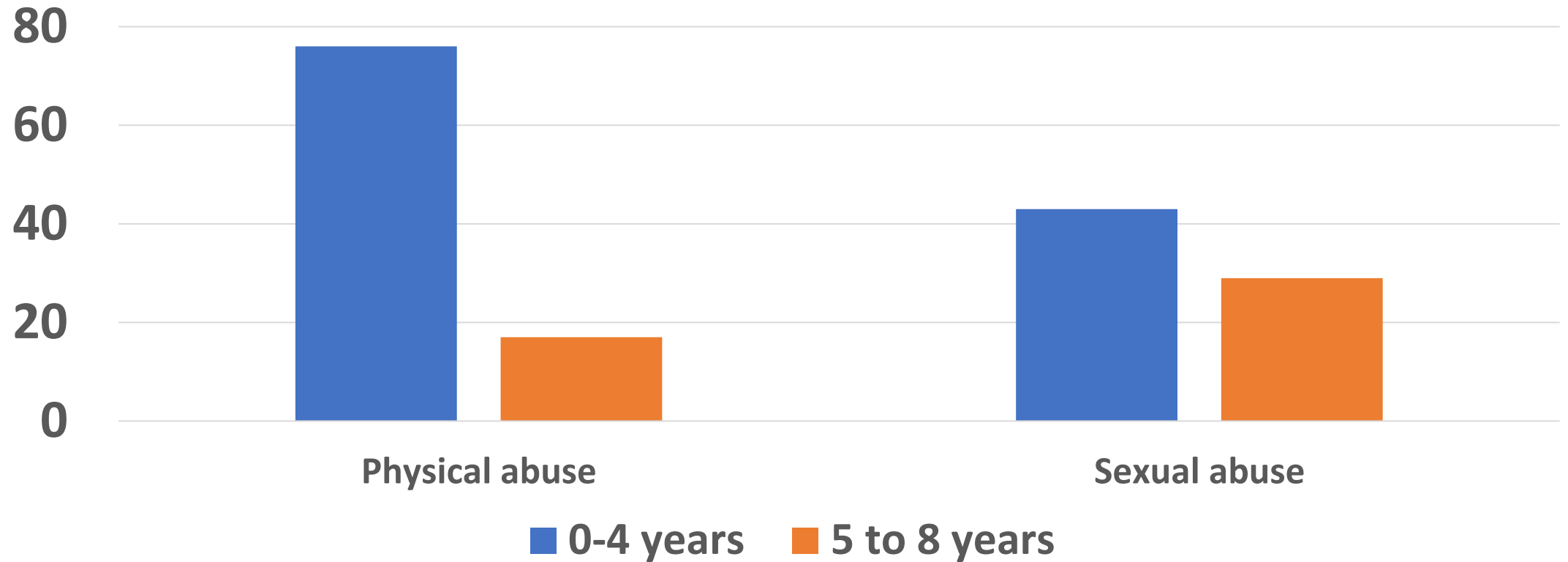
**PLENARY SESSION I : ISSUES ON VIOLENCE-FREE EARLY
CHILDHOOD SETTING**

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Overview

- Types of abuse referred to Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Team Hospital Kuala Lumpur
- Cause/sources of abuse
- Consequences of abuse

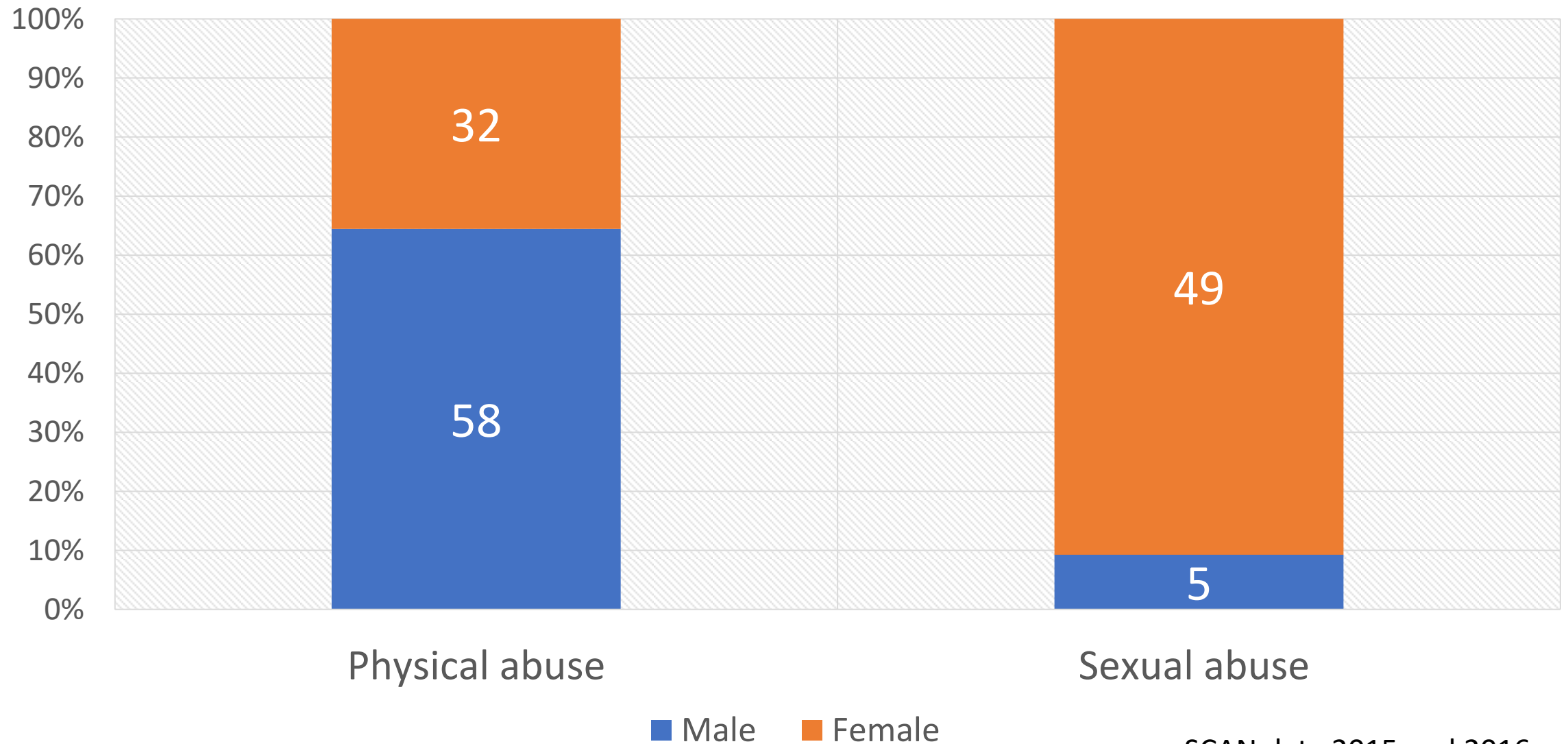
Numbers referred for physical abuse and sexual abuse according to age



Types of abuse

- Bruises, abrasion, swelling (majority)
- Fractures (4)
- Subdural bleeding (9)
- Molest
- Sodomy

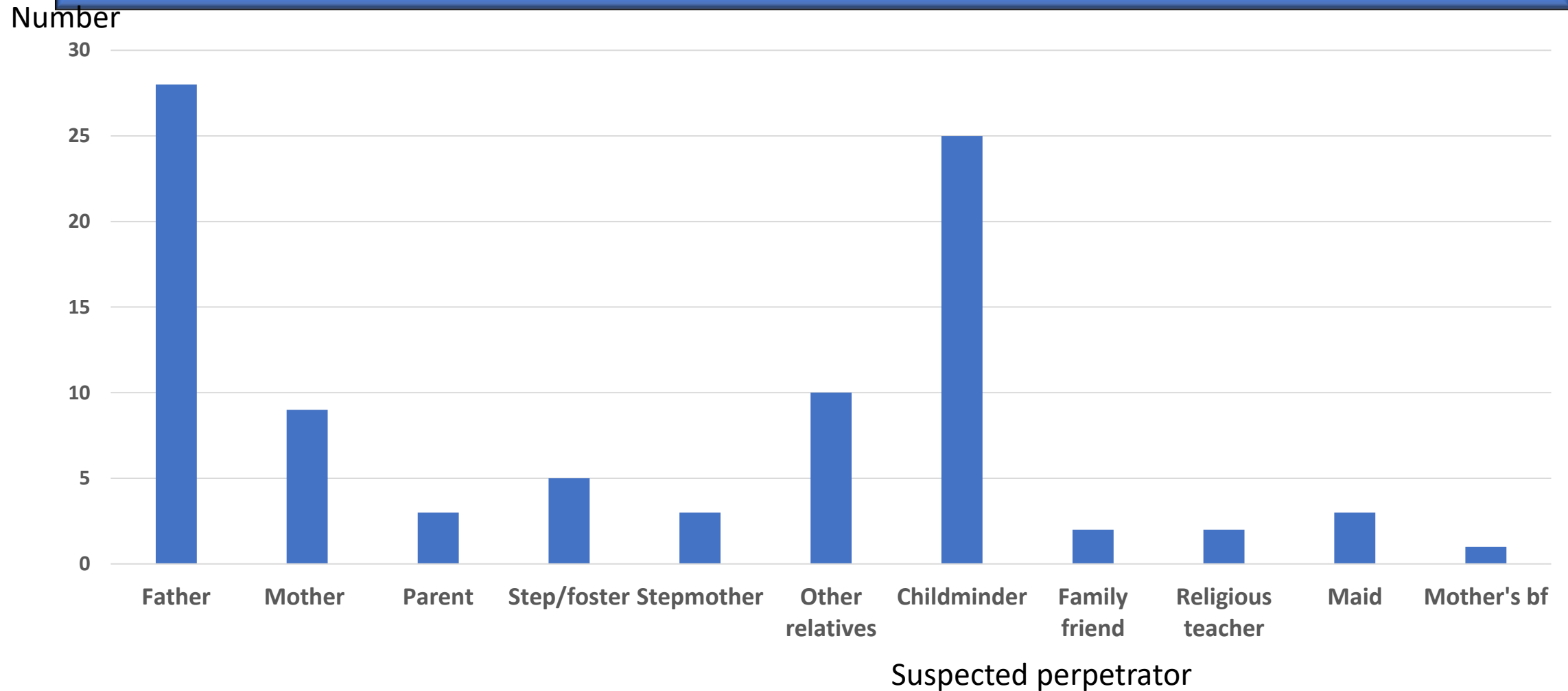
Gender proportion in physical and sexual abuse



Underreported cases

- Molest in nurseries
- Sexual abuse by relatives/ incest
- Pinch marks, bruises noted by parents in nurseries/ home care
- School bullying

Physical abuse – suspected perpetrators

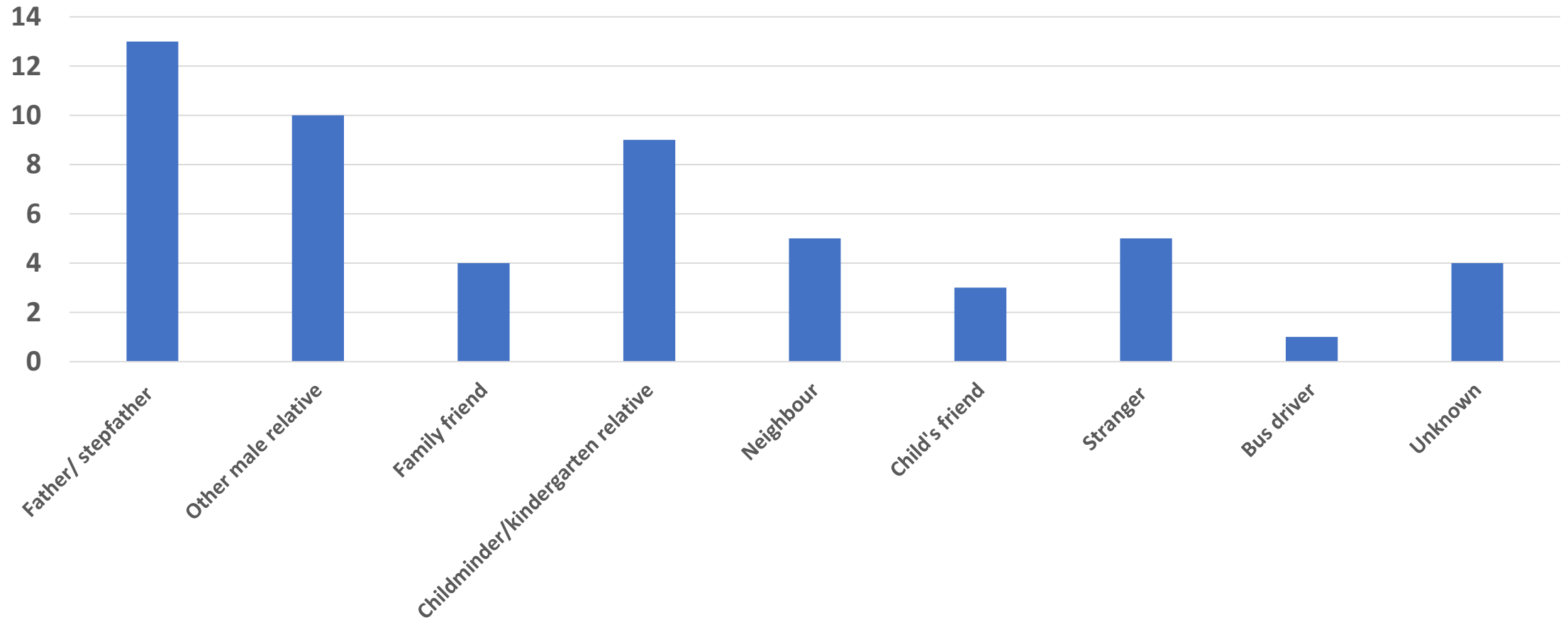


N= 91

SCAN HKL data 2015 and 2016

Sexual abuse - Suspected perpetrators

Number



SCAN HKL data 2015 and 2016

N=54

Risk factors

- Domestic violence (15)
- Drug addiction (9)
- Marital discord (33)
- Poor supervision
- Untrained childminder, insufficient childminder to children ratio
- Physical discipline as parenting style combined with poor anger management/ drug addiction/ other stressors
- Child disability, mental health

Children
considered
the
property of
their
parents

Abusive parents

- More likely to be hyperreactive to negative stimuli and to have an extreme need to control their children
- Punishment less contingent on child's behaviour than on their own inner state
- Rely totally on their greater physical power to intimidate their children into compliance
- Anger is explosive and they hit impulsively

- *Baumrind D, 1995 Child Maltreatment & optimal caregiving in social contexts*

- *Vasta, R. 1982 Developmental Review*

High expectations for educational success

- Fear of “loss of face”
- Stress – lack of time for play, replacement of family time with tuition
- Physical “punishment” for not doing homework on time, or poor school tests performance
- Behavioural disturbances, psychosomatic symptoms, depression, suicide
- “Rewards” in kind for good examination results
- Parental preference for “high achiever” child

Outcomes

- Majority who are referred are well if parent(s) is protective
- High risk groups are those with domestic violence and drug addiction
- Hyperactive behavior, aggression, school bullies
- Depressed, loss of esteem, loner or quiet in school, at risk of being bullied