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An online training program for professionals working in Child Protection Centers in Turkey

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In Turkey, University Based Child Protection Center (UBCPC) model has been a unique development in the history of child protection. From 2006 to 2012, 8 UBCPC were founded in universities of different provinces in Turkey. The mission of these centers is to provide a multidisciplinary approach to abused children as well as carry out preventive studies, research and advocacy work. In order to support foundation of new UBCPC's in other provinces and to support the already working ones, an NGO named "Child Protection Centers Support Society" (CPCSS) was founded in January 2012.

One of the aims of CPCSS was to set standards for UBCPC's and develop training programs to provide minimum qualifications for the team members. In 2012, a training program was given to 20 people. In 2013, in order to serve for a larger group, a web based online training and 5 days face to face training program was established for physicians, psychologists, nurses, social workers .

Online training program consisted of 10 cases, which were designed to teach details about different forms of child abuse and neglect to the participants. Each chapter consisted of a video about a specific case and some questions about the case. The participants could reach to both short and detailed information with references for further reading which are revealed by clicking the related link. The participants were required to complete a pre-test and final examination questions at the end of each case in order to finish the web based program. Until January 2014, a total of 374 professionals applied and 94 completed the web based training program, 22 failed in the final exam. A total of 43 individuals were invited to face to face training program for 5 days. The program will continue and will include professionals from other disciplines.