Child Abuse, Elder/Dependent Adult, Spouse/Partner, Firearm and Assaultive Conduct Injuries Reporting Obligations

Clinical Instructor Acknowledgement

We are required by law to obtain signed statements from clinical instructors acknowledging their awareness and understanding of the responsibility to report child abuse. We are also required to ensure that incidents of elder abuse, dependent adult abuse, and injuries arising from firearms or other forms of assaultive or abusive conduct are reported to appropriate authorities. This acknowledgement sets forth your reporting obligations. Also, please refer to Area Wide Policy: Abuse, Assault and Neglect Reporting, which describes St. Joseph Health System, Humboldt County’s policy for complying with these reporting obligations.

I. Child Abuse

Section 11166 of the Penal Code requires any childcare custodian, health practitioner, or employee of a child protective agency who has knowledge of or who observes a child in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment whom he/she knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse to report the known or suspected instance of child abuse to a child protective agency immediately or as soon as practically possible by telephone and to prepare and send a written report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident.

"Child care custodian" includes teachers, an instructional aide, or a teacher’s assistant employed by any public or private school, who has been trained in the duties imposed by Penal Code section 11166, if the school district has so warranted to the State Department of Education; administrative officers, supervisors of child welfare and attendance, or certified pupil personnel employees of any public or private school; administrators of a public or private day camp; licensed daycare facilities; head start teachers; licensing workers or licensing evaluators; public assistance workers; employees of a childcare institution, including, but not limited to, foster parents, group home personnel, and personnel of residential care facilities; and social workers or probation officers; or any person who is an administrator or presenter of, or counselor in, a child abuse prevention program in any public or private school, a district attorney investigator, inspector or family support officer, or a peace officer.

"Health practitioner" includes Physicians and Surgeons, Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Dentists, Residents, Interns, Podiatrists, Chiropractors, Registered Nurses, Licensed Vocation Nurses, Dental Hygienists, Optometrists, or any other person who is currently licensed under Division 2 (commencing with section 500) of the Business and Professions Code (which professions include Clinical Laboratory Technologists, Speech Pathologists and Audiologists, Dispensing Opticians, Occupational Therapists, Dieticians, Physical Therapists, Physician Assistants, Respiratory Therapists, Pharmacists, Psychiatric Technicians and Licensed Social Workers, Marriage, Family and Child Counselors, Emergency Medical Technicians I or II, Paramedics, or other persons certified pursuant to Division 2.5 (commencing with section 1797) of the Health and Safety Code); Psychological Assistants registered pursuant to section 2913 of the Business and Professions Code, unlicensed (or trainee) Marriage, Family and Child Counselor Interns registered under section 4980.44 of the Business and Professions Code, state or county public health employees who treat minors for venereal disease or any other condition or who treat elders or dependent adults for any condition; Coroners, Paramedics, and Religious Practitioners who diagnose, examine or treat children, elders or dependent adults.
II. Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Section 15630 of the Welfare and Institutions Code requires that any elder or dependent adult care custodian, employee of a county adult protective services agency or local law enforcement agency, or any health practitioner (as defined above), who is in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment has either:

1. Observed an incident that reasonably appears to be physical abuse.
2. Observed a physical injury where the nature of the injury, its location on the body or the repetition of the injury, clearly indicates that physical abuse has occurred, or
3. Is told by an elder or dependent adult that he or she has experienced behavior constituting physical abuse,

Shall report the known or suspected instance of physical abuse either to the long-term care ombudsman coordinator or to a local law enforcement agency when the physical abuse is alleged to have occurred in a long-term care facility, or to either the county adult protective services agency or to a local law enforcement agency when the physical abuse is alleged to have occurred anywhere else, immediately or as soon as possible by telephone, and shall prepare and send a written report thereof within two working days.

The report must include the following:

1. The name of the person making the report.
2. The name, age, and present location of the elder or dependent adult.
3. The names and addresses of family members or other person responsible for the elder or dependent adult’s care, if know.
4. The nature and extend of the person’s condition.
5. Any information that led the reporter to suspect that abuse has occurred,
6. The date of the incident.

III. Reporting Firearm Injuries and Injuries Arising From Assaultive or Abusive Conduct

Section 11160 of the Penal code requires a health practitioner who, in his/her professional capacity or within the scope of his/her employment, provides medical services to a patient for a physical condition or injury that he/she knows or reasonably suspects arises from:

1. A firearm (whether the condition or injury is self-inflicted or inflicted by another), or
2. Assaultive or abusive conduct (see below for examples of such conduct),

Shall report the incident to a local law enforcement agency immediately or as soon as practically possible by telephone and shall prepare and send a written report thereof within two working days of receiving the information concerning the incident.

Assaultive or abusive conduct includes any of the following offenses:

1. Murder, in violation of Penal Code Section 187
2. Manslaughter, in violation of Penal Code Section 192 or 192.5
3. Mayhem, in violation of Penal Code Section 203
4. Aggravated mayhem, in violation of Penal Code Section 205
5. Torture, in violation of Penal Code 206
6. Assault with intent to commit mayhem, rape, sodomy or oral copulation in violation of Penal Code Section 220
7. Administering controlled substances or anesthetic to aid in commission of a felony, in violation of Penal Code Section 222
8. Battery, in violation of Penal Code Section 242
9. Sexual battery, in violation of Penal Code Section 243.4
10. Incest, in violation of Penal Code Section 285
11. Throwing an vitriol, corrosive acid or caustic chemical with intent to injure or disfigure, in violation of Penal Code Section 244
12. Assault with a stun gun or laser, in violation of Penal Code Section 244.5
13. Assault with a deadly weapon, firearm, assaultive weapon or machine gun or by means likely to produce great bodily injury, in violation of Penal Code Section 245
14. Rape, in violation of Penal Code Section 261
15. Spousal rape, in violation of Penal Code Section 262
16. Procuring any female to have sex with another man, in violation of Penal Code Sections 266, 266a, 266b, 266c
17. Child abuse or endangerment, in violation of Penal Code Sections 273a or 273d
18. Abuse of spouse, partner or cohabitant, in violation of Penal Code Section 273.5
19. Sodomy in violation of Penal Code Section 286
20. Lewd and lascivious acts with a child, in violation of Penal Code Section 288
21. Oral copulation, in violation of Penal Code Section 188a
22. Genital or anal penetration by a foreign object, in violation of Penal Code Section 289 or 289.5
23. Elder abuse, in violation of Penal Code Section 368
24. An attempt to commit any crime specified in paragraphs 1 to 23, inclusive

Note: Assaultive and abusive conduct that is separately reportable under Section I (child abuse) and Section II (elder/dependent adult abuse). However, injuries arising from other forms of abusive conduct (sexual abuses, spousal/partner/cohabitant abuse) are reportable as assaultive/abusive conduct under this Section, even though there are no specific statutes dealing exclusively with such conduct.

Acknowledgement

Signed statement shall be retained by clinical instructor’s academic institution.

I have read and understand the above statement and will comply with the Abuse Reporting requirements of California Penal Code Sections 1160 and 11666 and the Welfare & Institutions Code Section 15630.

________________________________________________                    __________________________
Student Signature                                                                                       Date

________________________________________________                  ___________________________
Print Name                  Academic Institution

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