

California Law requires certain healthcare staff (“mandated reporters”) to report known or suspected child abuse, adult and/or dependent adult abuse and injuries resulting from violence. Based on your job title or duties, you have been identified as a mandated reporter. These laws are described in more detail below.

Child Abuse

Section 11166 of the California Penal Code requires mandated reporters to verbally report known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect **immediately**, or as soon as practically possible, to the local Police Department in the city where the incident occurred or to Child Protective Services in the county of incident. **Additionally, a written report, using state reporting form SS8572 must be filed within 36 hours.** Forensic form CalEMA2-90 must also be submitted if providing forensic evidence.

Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse

Section 15630 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code requires mandated reporters to verbally report known or suspected abuse, neglect, abandonment, isolation or misappropriation related to an elder (65 or older) or dependent adult. These reports must be made to either the Police or the Adult Protective Services Departments of the county where the individual resides. **Additionally, a written report, using state reporting form SOC341 (physical abuse or neglect) or form SOC 342 (financial abuse) must be filed within two (2) working days.** Forensic form CalEMA2-602 must also be submitted if providing forensic evidence.

Violent Injuries

Section 11160-11163 of the California Penal Code requires that any health practitioner employed in a health facility, clinic or physician’s office who, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a patient whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has suffered any wounds inflicted by means of a **firearm** or any wound or other physical injury inflicted upon a person where **the injury is the result of assaultive or abuse conduct**, shall as soon as reasonably possible file a telephone report with the police department in the city in which the incident occurred. A written report, using state reporting form **CalEMA2-920 must be filed within two (2) working days.** Forensic Form CalEMA2-502 must be submitted if providing forensic evidence.

Failure to comply with these mandated reporting requirements may be subject to fines of up to \$5,000.00 and/or imprisonment in the county not more than one year.

Please see UHA policies with similar titles describing each of these laws and their reporting requirements in more detail.

It is advisable, but not required, to notify your clinical supervisor, or Administration, whenever you believe that you are required to report suspected abuse or violence.

PLEASE CLOSE THIS WINDOW AFTER YOU HAVE FINISHED READING. YOU’LL RETURN TO HEALTHSTREAM WHERE YOU WILL ANSWER A ONE-QUESTION TEST, DEMONSTRATING YOUR AGREEMENT TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES.