

OVERVIEW

The Children's Protective Services Minimal Priority Response Criteria guides decision-making from the receipt of the complaint to ensure the appropriate response is determined at assignment. The criteria determine two types of responses:

- Response time for commencement of the investigation.
- Response time for face-to-face contact with each alleged child victim.

See Exhibit 1- Priority Response Decision-Making Trees in this item.

**COMMENCEMENT
OF THE
INVESTIGATION**

The Child Protection Law (MCL 722.628) compels the department to commence the investigation of a complaint no later than 24 hours after the receipt of a complaint, although the seriousness of the alleged harm or threatened harm to the children may dictate an immediate response.

**Definition of
Commencement**

Commencing an investigation requires contact with someone other than the reporting person within 24 hours of the receipt of the complaint to assess the safety of the alleged child victim (based on the priority level, a more immediate commencement may be required).

Acceptable contacts may include any of the following, provided that the individual has direct knowledge that is relevant to the issues in the complaint and the information can be used to assess the alleged child victim's safety:

- Community agency staff (schools, medical facilities, human services agencies, law enforcement, etc.).
- MDHHS professional staff (CPS, FIS, foster care, etc.).
- Any individual indicated by the reporting person as a corroborative or supplemental source, or as having relevant knowledge of the family situation.

Note: The best, most efficient way to commence an investigation, and ensure child safety, is to make face-to-face contact with the alleged child victim.

PRIORITY ONE RESPONSE (12/24)

For priority one responses commencement should occur as soon as possible after receipt of the complaint when immediate danger of harm to the child(ren) is determined at the intake level. Commencement **must** occur within 12 hours. Face-to-face contact must take place with each alleged child victim within 24 hours.

PRIORITY TWO RESPONSE (24/72)

Priority two response commencement should occur within 24 hours after receipt of the complaint, when it is determined the child is not in imminent danger of harm. Face-to-face contact must take place with each alleged child victim within 72 hours.

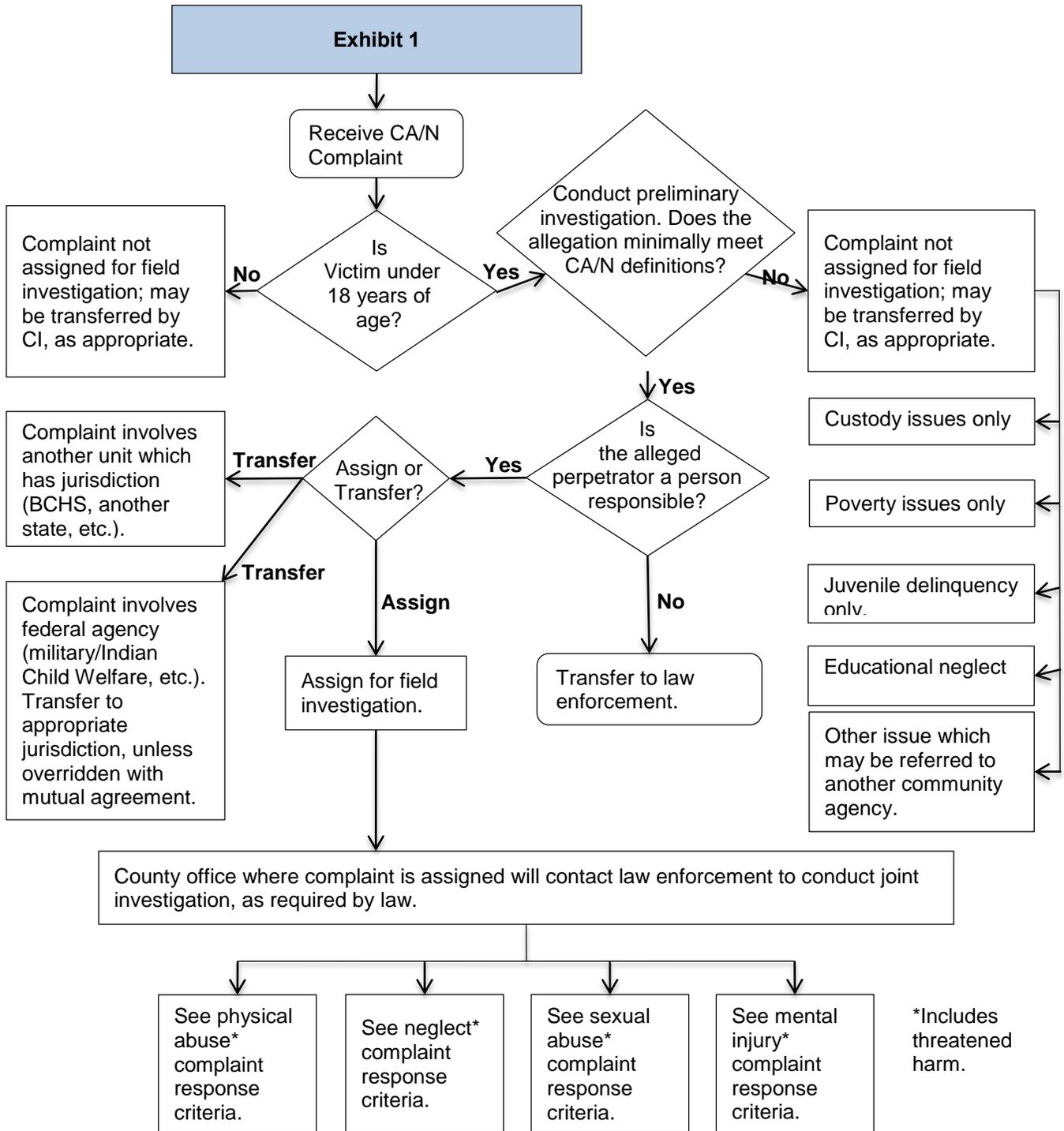


EXHIBIT II-MINIMAL PRIORITY RESPONSE FOR FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

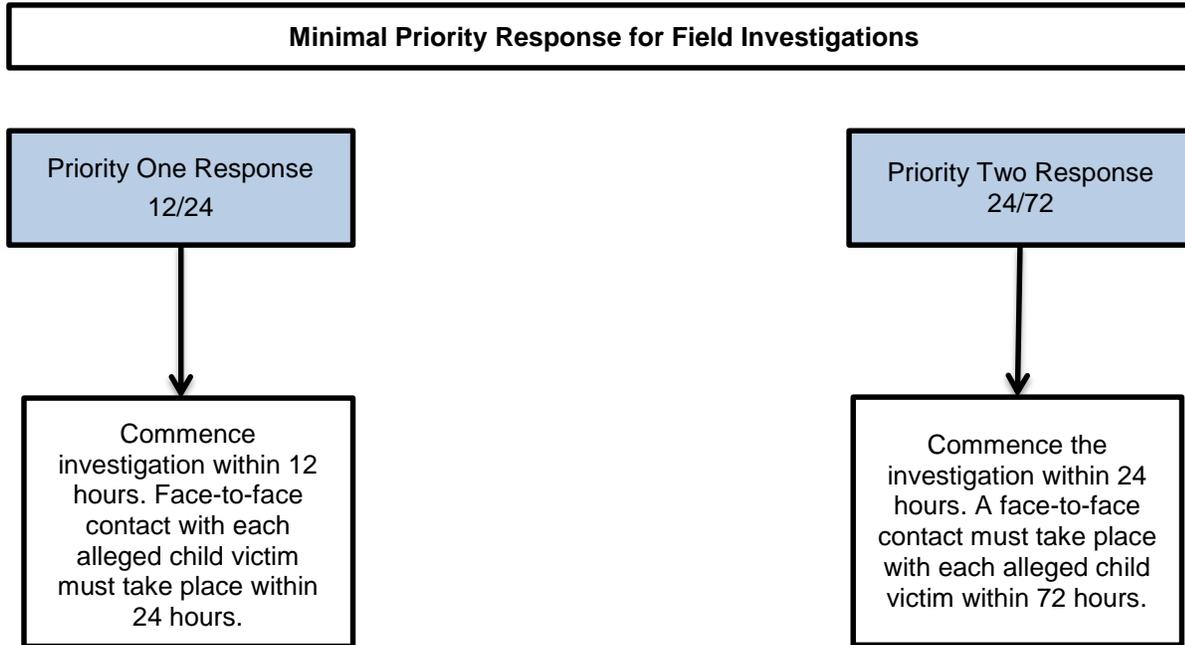
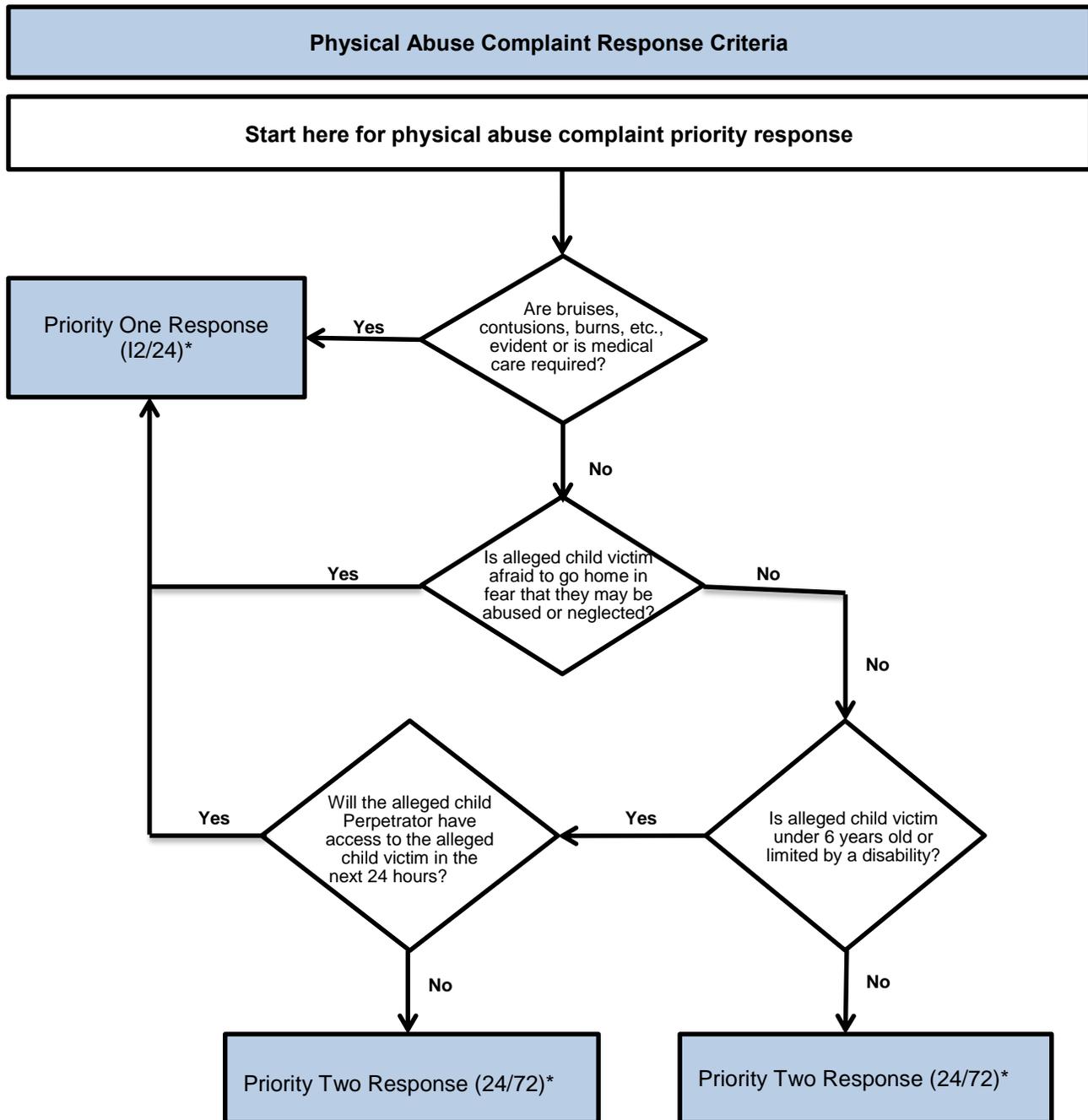


EXHIBIT III-PHYSICAL ABUSE COMPLAINT RESPONSE CRITERIA



*Supervisor may override the 12 hour response criteria and institute 24 hour response criteria if the alleged child victim is not in school, day care, etc., when the complaint is received and an interview at home would hamper the investigation or endanger the child, or in order to conduct a joint investigation with law enforcement. The supervisor must document the rationale for the override in MiSACWIS.

EXHIBIT IV-MENTAL INJURY COMPLAINT RESPONSE CRITERIA

Mental Injury and Child Maltreatment Complaints Response Criteria

Start here for mental injury and maltreatment complaint priority response

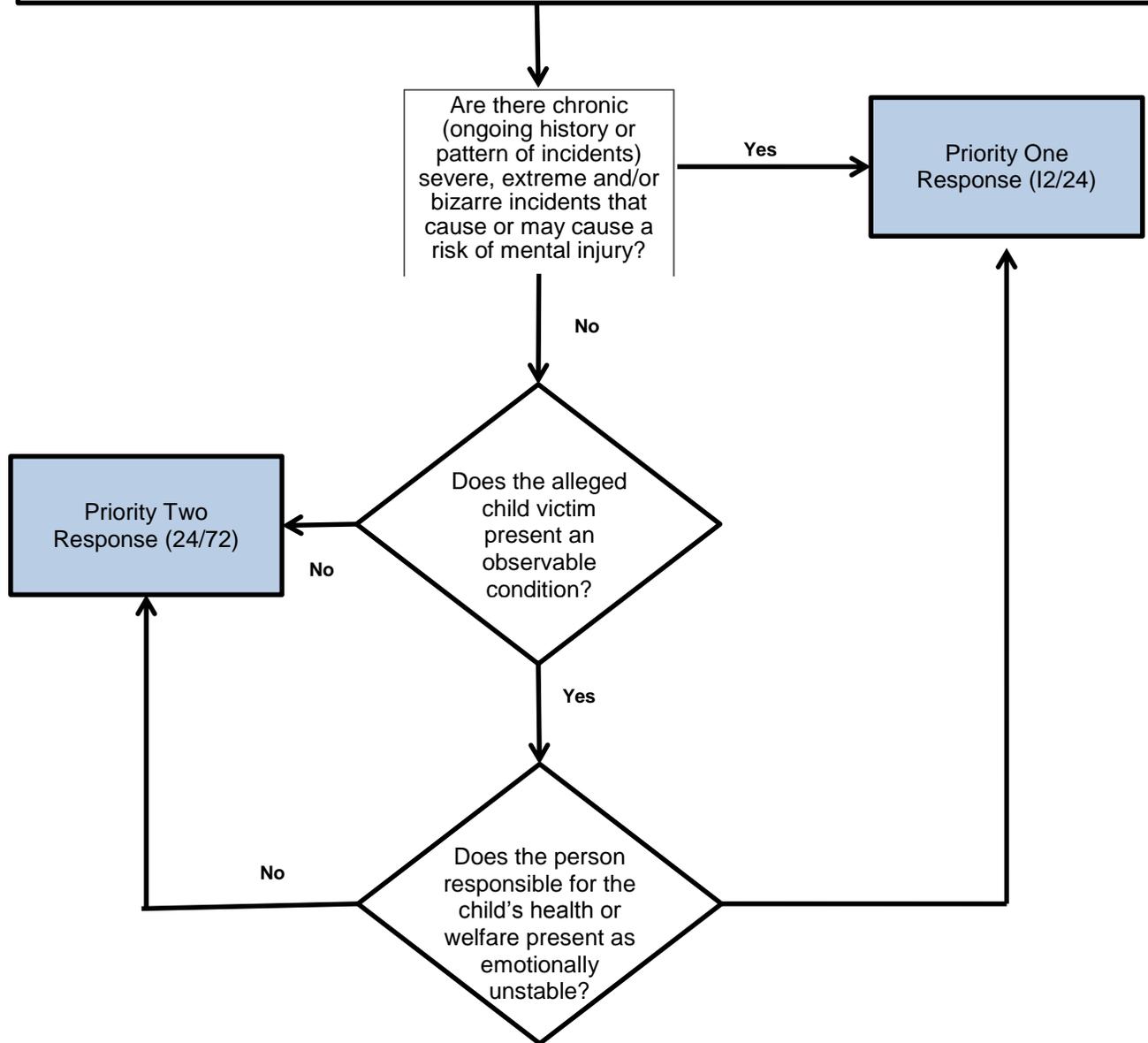
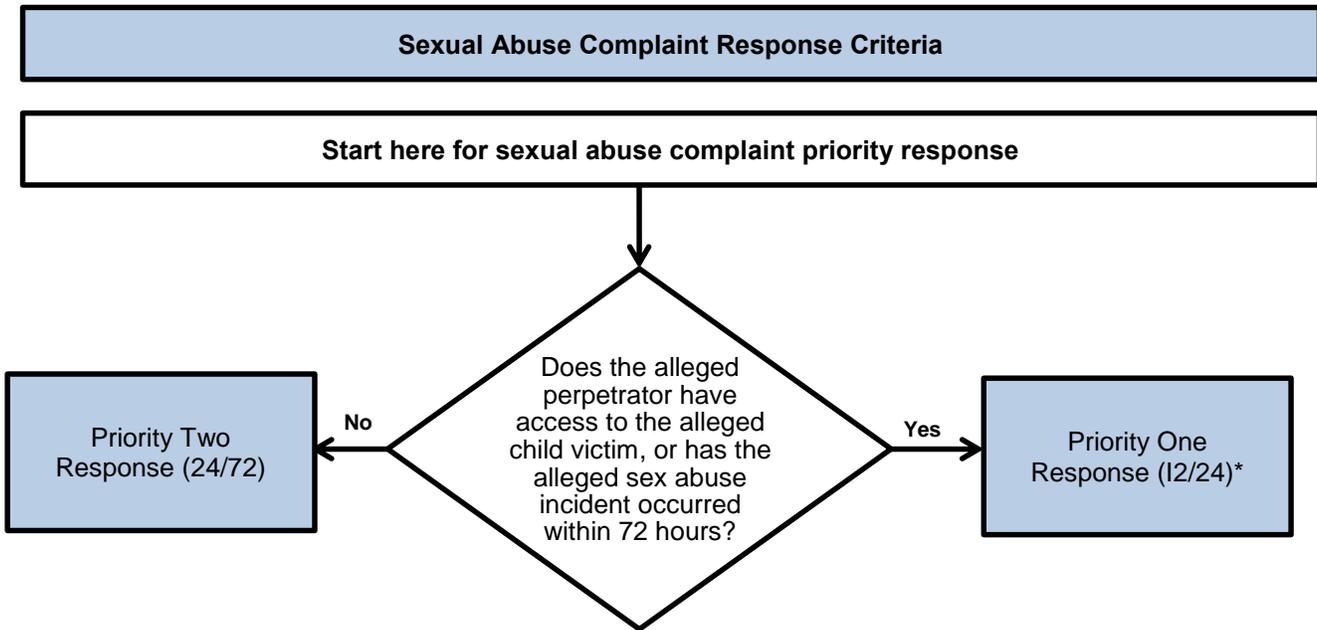


EXHIBIT V-SEXUAL ABUSE COMPLAINT RESPONSE CRITERIA



* Supervisor may override the 12 hour response criteria and institute 24 hour response criteria if the alleged child victim is not in school, day care, etc., and an interview at home would hamper the investigation or endanger the child. The supervisor must document the rationale for the override in MiSACWIS.

EXHIBIT V-NEGLECT COMPLAINT PRIORITY RESPONSE CRITERIA

Neglect Priority Response Criteria

Start here for neglect priority response

