

232.49 Physical and mental examinations.

1. Following the entry of an order of adjudication under [section 232.47](#) the court may, after a hearing which may be simultaneous with the adjudicatory hearing, order a physical or mental examination of the child if it finds that an examination is necessary to determine the child's physical or mental condition. The court may consider chemical dependency as either a physical or mental condition and may consider a chemical dependency evaluation as either a physical or mental examination. If the examination indicates the child has behaved in a manner that threatened the safety of another person, has committed a violent act causing bodily injury to another person, or has been a victim or perpetrator of sexual abuse, unless otherwise ordered by the court, the child's parent, guardian, or foster parent or other person with custody of the child shall be provided with that information.

2. When possible an examination shall be conducted on an outpatient basis, but the court may, if it deems necessary, commit the child to a suitable hospital, facility or institution for the purpose of examination. Commitment for examination shall not exceed thirty days and the civil commitment provisions of [chapter 229](#) shall not apply.

3. *a.* At any time after the filing of a delinquency petition the court may order a physical or mental examination of the child if the following circumstances apply:

- (1) The court finds such examination to be in the best interest of the child; and
- (2) The parent, guardian, or custodian and the child's counsel agree.

b. An examination shall be conducted on an outpatient basis unless the court, the child's counsel, and the parent, guardian, or custodian agree that it is necessary the child be committed to a suitable hospital, facility, or institution for the purpose of examination. Commitment for examination shall not exceed thirty days and the civil commitment provisions of [chapter 229](#) shall not apply.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §232.13; C79, 81, §232.49]

[86 Acts, ch 1186, §4](#); [2005 Acts, ch 124, §3](#); [2009 Acts, ch 41, §235](#)