441—176.7(235B) Investigation.

176.7(1) After receipt of a report alleging dependent adult abuse that meets criteria as outlined in subrule 176.3(1), a dependent adult abuse investigation will be initiated and will be assigned to a department employee. The department will make an effort to observe and examine the dependent adult and evaluate the dependent adult's safety.

a. When report information indicates an immediate risk of death, immediate risk of serious or irreparable harm, or immediate risk of significant loss of income, assets, or resources to the dependent adult, the initial response will occur no later than 24 hours after receipt of a report of dependent adult abuse.

b. When report information does not indicate an immediate risk of death, serious or irreparable harm, or significant loss of income, assets, or resources, the initial response will occur no later than 72 hours after receipt of a report of dependent adult abuse.

c. When reasonable efforts have been made to observe the adult subject within the specified time frames and the department has established that there is no need to observe and no risk to the adult subject, the observation of the adult subject may be delayed or waived with supervisory approval.

176.7(2) After receipt of the report alleging dependent adult abuse, the department employee will conduct an investigation to determine whether the information as reported, other known information, and any information gathered as a result of the worker's contact with collateral sources or other collateral contacts would tend to corroborate the alleged abuse.

176.7(3) If, following acceptance of a report, information obtained during initial case activity establishes that the report was accepted on materially inaccurate reported facts and does not fall within the scope of Iowa Code chapter 235B, the department employee may, with department approval, terminate the investigation and submit the investigative summary. In such cases, completion of assessments required under Iowa Code section 235B.16A is not required.

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