

441—176.7(235B) Appropriate evaluation or assessment.

176.7(1) After receipt of the report alleging dependent adult abuse, the field worker shall make an evaluation or assessment 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 would tend to corroborate the alleged abuse.

176.7(2) When the information gathered in the evaluation or assessment tends to corroborate, or the worker is uncertain as to whether it repudiates the allegations of the report, the worker shall immediately continue the evaluation or assessment by making a reasonable effort to ensure the safety of the adult. The worker and the worker's supervisor shall determine whether an immediate threat to the physical safety of the adult is believed to exist.

a. If an immediate threat to the physical safety of the adult is believed to exist, the field worker shall make every reasonable effort to examine the adult, as authorized by 176.6(3), within one hour after receipt of the report and shall take any lawful action necessary or advisable for the protection of the adult.

b. When physical safety of the adult is not endangered, the worker shall make every reasonable effort to examine the adult within 24 hours after receipt of the report.

176.7(3) In the event the information gathered in the evaluation or assessment fails to corroborate the allegation of adult abuse, the worker, with approval of the supervisor, may terminate the evaluation or assessment and submit the report required by subrule 176.6(5).