

# Incidents Adversely Affecting Health and Safety & Behavior Support Level I – Informal Respite

## What is a major unusual incident (MUI)?

An MUI is an incident that is suspected to have been committed or known to have actually occurred and one that adversely affects the health and safety of an individual. This includes acts known or said to be committed by one individual against another individual. Major unusual incidents include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. **Abuse**, which means the use of physical force that can be reasonably expected to result in physical harm or serious physical harm that includes, but is not limited to, hitting, slapping, pushing, or throwing objects at an individual; unlawful sexual conduct; or using words or gestures to threaten, coerce, intimidate, harass, or humiliate an individual.
2. **Misappropriation**, which means depriving, defrauding, or otherwise obtaining the real or personal property of an individual by any means prohibited by the Ohio Revised Code.
3. **Neglect**, which means failure to act.
4. The **death**, by any cause, of an individual.
5. Any incident involving an individual that requires **the involvement of law enforcement**.
6. **Attempted suicide** by the individual.
7. Fire, natural disaster, or mechanical failure at any place at which the individual receives services that results in **overnight relocation of the individual or an inability to provide the individual with services** for at least a twenty-four-hour period.
8. An incident in which **an individual can not be located** for a period of time longer than specified in the individual's plan of if other circumstances indicate that the individual is in immediate jeopardy.
9. **Medical emergency**, which means the sudden onset of a medical condition that requires emergency medical intervention.
10. Any unplanned or unscheduled **hospital admission**.
11. Any **injury** of an unknown or suspicious origin that requires treatment **that only a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner can provide**.
12. The **use of any behavior support method**, including restraint or time-out, that is implemented in a manner **prohibited by rules** promulgated by the department or by federal regulation or rules. Prohibited actions that may not be used as behavior support methods are to be reported as major unusual incidents. **Prohibited actions include:**
  - a. Any physical abuse of an individual such as striking, spitting on, scratching, shoving, paddling, spanking, pinching, corporal punishment or any action to inflict pain.
  - b. Any sexual abuse of an individual.
  - c. Any psychological/verbal abuse such as threatening, ridiculing, or using abusive or demeaning language
  - d. Placing the individual in a room with no light
  - e. Subjecting the individual to damaging or painful sound
  - f. Denial of breakfast, lunch or dinner.
  - g. Squirting an individual with any substance as a consequence for a behavior
  - h. Time-out in a time-out room exceeding one hour for any one incident and exceeding more than two hours in a twenty-four hour period
  - i. Restraints, except when necessary to protect health, safety, and property
  - j. Medication for behavior control, unless it is prescribed by a licensed physician

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13. Any **violation of the bill of rights** as set forth in Ohio Revised Coded 5123.62 that adversely affects the health or safety of an individual.
14. A **series of similar unusual incidents** that may have an impact on the health and safety of an individual. An unusual incident means an event or occurrence involving an individual that is not consistent with the individual service plan of the individual, but is not a major unusual incident as defined above.

**What should I do if I either see or suspect that one of the above things has happened?**

1. Immediately upon identification or notification of a major unusual incident, the provider shall take all reasonable steps necessary to prevent the occurrence or reoccurrence of incidents that threaten the health and safety of the individual served.
2. The provider shall immediately notify the county board by telephone or other electronic means if the major unusual incident requires notification of a law enforcement agency or a public children services agency or the major unusual incident raises immediate concerns regarding the individual's health and safety.
3. The provider shall submit a written report of the incident to the county board by five p.m. the next working day following the provider's initial knowledge of any major unusual incident.
4. As soon as practicable, but no later than twenty-four hours after becoming aware of a major unusual incident, the provider shall verbally notify the legal guardian or advocate selected by the individual, unless the legal guardian or advocate is the primary person involved that forms the basis for the reported incident.

**I have read the above information, have received a copy for myself, and understand that:**

1. **I must report any of the incidents as described above to the parent(s) or guardian and the person responsible for service and support administration (SSA)\* for the individual I serve within the timelines listed above.**
2. **Aversive behavior supports, including restraint and time-out, can only be used for an individual when they are part of an approved behavior support plan, and I may only use such supports if I have been trained to do so with the individual I serve.**
3. **I will take all reasonable steps necessary to prevent the occurrence or reoccurrence of incidents that threaten the health and safety of the individual I serve.**

<b>Provider Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Parent/Guardian Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
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**\*Person Responsible for SSA:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_