



## Domestic Violence Reporting Requirements

Employee ID:	Department:	Facility:
First Name:		Last Name:

**Domestic Violence:** Any stated threat or infliction against an adult or adolescent, intimate partner, past or present, by means of physical violence, threats, emotional abuse, harassment, or stalking that is directed at achieving compliance from or control over the victim.

**California State law (health and Safety Code section 1259.5) requires that a care provider knows how to identify and handle patients whose injuries or illnesses are attributed to domestic violence.**

Victims of domestic violence may try to hide the abuse. Abuse may start or increase during pregnancy.

Be alert to: Behavioral Cues

- \* Nervous, inappropriate laughter, lack of eye contact, minimizing serious injuries
- \* Overly attentive, hovering partner
- \* Frequent user of health care services, especially for psycho-somatic complaints

Physical Indicators

- \* Central distribution of injuries- face, throat, neck, chest, abdomen, breasts, genitals
- \* Delay between onset of injury and presentation for treatment
- \* Multiple injuries in various stages of healing

**Under California Penal Code, Section 11160, suspected domestic violence must be reported. Failure to report such abuse is a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of \$1000.00 and / or jail term of six months.**

*It is a care provider's responsibility to report when a patient seeks medical treatment when injuries have been inflicted upon them, regardless of the patient's wish to self-report.*

1. Oral report must be made as soon as possible.
2. Written report must be completed and sent within 48 hours to a law enforcement agency where incident occurred. Reports may be faxed to reporting agency.

**Documentation Responsibilities as a Healthcare Provider:** Remember that the reporting form is not a substitute for complete documentation.

Refer to KP NSA Administrative policy titled: **Reporting Suspected Injuries Related to Assaultive or Abusive Conduct including Domestic Violence Policy #2017** for detailed description of suspected abuse signs and symptoms, treatment, reporting, documentation, and web sites available to learn more about abuse.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_