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Mandated Reporting Summary: Maryland

Mandated reporting – do you know what that is? As a Licensed Massage Therapist or LCPC/LGCP, Maryland law outlines several scenarios in which health care providers (HCP) are mandated to report abuse. You are responsible for confirming all the information provided to you in this summary as laws change, circumstances may dictate a different process and this may not be a complete summary particular to your situation.

According to Maryland Law, you are a mandated reporter if you are one of the following: **Health Practitioner, Educator, Human Service Worker, or Police Officer**.

In Maryland, if you knowingly fail to report suspected abuse of a child, or other vulnerable population, you may be subject to professional sanctions by licensing boards. Anyone that makes a "good faith" report is immune from civil liability and criminal penalty. At this time, Maryland is one of three states without criminal penalties for those who fail to report child abuse. In the links below, you will find guidelines for reporting, what to report, where to report, and liability for reporting.

This link provides a list of where to report, how to report and the forms you may need to provide a report for child abuse. <u>Mandated Reporters</u>.

This link provides a brochure which helps to clear up when circumstances require reporting of abuse. A <u>Guide for Health Care Providers: Confidentiality and Reporting Requirements</u> which is published by the Maryland Healthcare Coalition against Domestic Violence.

Even if you do not fall into the above categories, Johns Hopkins University has researched the issue as it applies to professions and lay people who are involved in conducting research studies. This link provides a clear table of reporting requirements. As stated in this linked summary, "In some cases, the statutory language that requires reporting seems to contemplate the existence of a patient-provider relationship, while in others the reporting requirements apply broadly to 'any person,' which would include members of the research team." Maryland Reporting Obligations that May Apply to Investigators or Other Members of the Research Team If you have questions, it is your obligation to seek advice from your professional board, an attorney and /or the Maryland Attorney General's office which relates to your profession.

If you practice in other states, you should also know the laws pertaining to your practice there. A summary of state laws for mandated reporting of adult abuse is provided by the American Bar Association, but you are under obligation to confirm these with your state's legal and professional associations as laws change and may not be updated at this link. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: PROVISIONS AND CITATIONS IN ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES LAWS, BY STATE

This is not to be considered to be a complete, legal guideline. Individual practitioners need to confirm information and how it applies to their practice and circumstances.