

Aging and People with Disabilities

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**Number:** APD-IM-13-039

**Issue date:** 7/17/2013

**Topic:** Protective Services

**Subject:** Length of Time Between APS Investigations

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees                             | <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging             | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):        |

**Message:** Please use the attached decision making tool as a guide when screening in cases in which allegations of the same type of abuse have previously been investigated.

When screening such cases, consider the following questions:

- 1) Does the current complaint involve the same reported victim?
- 2) Is the same type of abuse being alleged?
- 3) Does the current complaint involve the same reported perpetrator?

If the answer to any of the above is “no”, then the case should be screened in. If the answers to the above questions are “yes”, then proceed with the following questions:

- 4) Does the allegation involve the exact incident that was previously investigated, i.e. a one time event that is being re-reported, perhaps by a different complainant?
- 5) If the current complaint involves ongoing abuse, and the case is not open for risk management, is any new information being provided by the caller, i.e. additional types of abuse, different circumstances, greater detail, recent LEA involvement?
- 6) Have more than three months elapsed since the reported victim was last seen by an APSS in the course of an investigation? This is not when the prior case was closed, nor when the prior case was received, but when the reported victim was last seen?

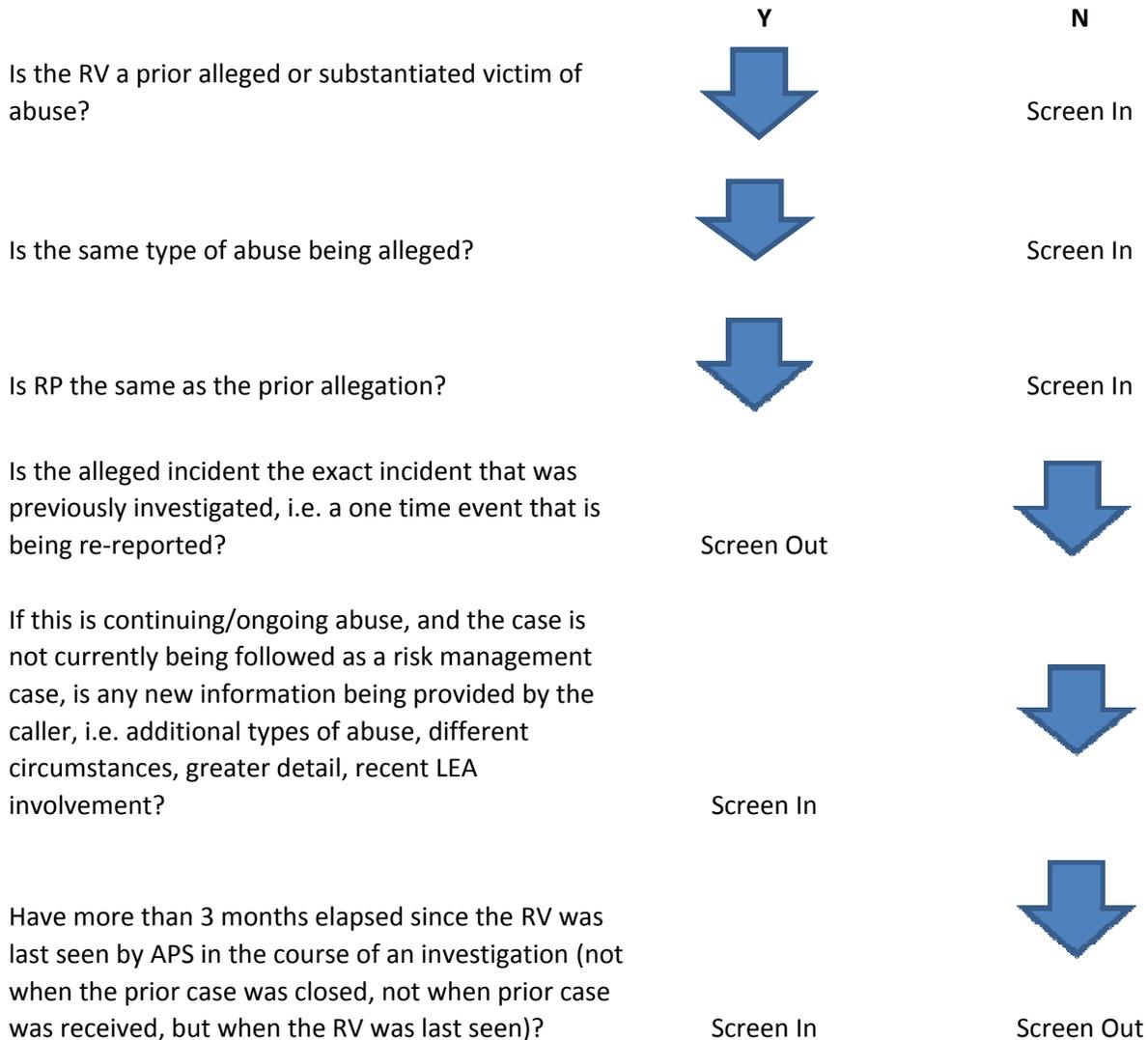
If the answer to all of the above is “no”, the case should be screened out. If the answer to any of the above questions is “yes” the case should be screened in.

It is understood that not all such cases will be able to be accurately screened using this tool and discretion is allowed, however this tool is being provided as an indication of best practice.

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

<b>Contact(s):</b>	Valerie Eames		
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<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Valerie.m.eames@state.or.us">Valerie.m.eames@state.or.us</a>		

**The following decision making tree should be utilized only if the allegation you are screening has already been determined to meet all other criteria for being screened in.**



If a case is screened out as a result of this decision making process, it is best practice to document on the screening document the date of the prior investigation and the date that the RV was last seen during that investigative/assessment process.

It is understood that not all cases will be able to be accurately screened using this tool and discretion is allowed. This tool is being provided as a guide to best practice.