Sample: Intimate Partner Violence Family Home Visiting Crisis Intervention Algorithm

Decision Tree when it is determined that mother/client is facing imminent danger

- Client calls local emergency resources (i.e. law enforcement) with the consent of the client together with home visitor
- Assess risk of own immediate safety
- Contact your supervisor

Discuss plans for safe exit
- Consider local shelter and/or friends, relatives, neighbors
- Assist with transportation to safety and other arrangements as needed
- If vulnerable adult, contact Social Services’ adult protection unit
- Make sure children are safe, contact Child Protection Services if children are at risk

Initiate Safety Plan

Contact Domestic/Sexual Violence Service Providers:
Reach out to IPV advocate or domestic and sexual violence center to inform of situation and strategize about safety measures

Document all events carefully:
- Keep any evidence of physical abuse, such as pictures or documentation of injuries. Referrals made
- Nature of abuse disclosed by client
- Time and day of events

Follow up

Discuss situation with supervisor

Contact client next business day:
- Provide support
- Obtain updated status and release for new providers
- Plan for follow-up visits

Keep in touch with client and providers only if release for providers is obtained (respect client and provider confidentiality).

Return to Intimate Partner Violence Screening Algorithm
Intimate Partner Violence Crisis Intervention Algorithm (word version):

It is determined that mother/client is facing imminent danger
- Client calls local emergency resources (i.e. law enforcement) with the consent of the client together with home visitor
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Initiate Safety Plan

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Follow Up
- Discuss situation with supervisor

Contact client next business day:
- Provide support
- Obtain updated status and release for new providers
- Plan for follow-up visits

On follow-up visit with client:
- Evaluate client’s substance use, behavioral, mental health status and refer to behavioral health specialist services or counselor if applicable
- Discuss how the client is feeling
- Determine plan for next follow-up
- Make further arrangements if needed to assure child and client’s wellbeing and safety

Keep in touch with client and providers only if release for providers is obtained (respect client and provider confidentiality).

Return to Intimate Partner Violence Screening Algorithm.

Definition:
*Vulnerable adult= refer to Minnesota Statute (MS 626.5572, subd. 21)

References:
- St. Louis County Health Department: Domestic Violence Protocol Levels of Response Developed by St. Louis County public health nurses and the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, Duluth, MN. Print.
- Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement Domestic Violence Screen.

Created by: the Minnesota Department of Health | Community & Family Health Division | Family Home Visiting Section | Minnesota Dept of Health Family Home Visiting page P.O. Box 64882, St. Paul, MN 55164, health.fhv@state.mn.us Phone: 651-201-4090, Fax: 651-201-3590. (December 2016)