

- (I) A PHYSICIAN;
- (II) A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM OR MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM MEMBER;
- (III) A HEALTH CARE FACILITY; OR
- (IV) A STAFF MEMBER OF A HEALTH CARE FACILITY WHO IS AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT.

(4) "MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM" MEANS A GROUP OF PROFESSIONALS WITH EXPERTISE IN VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINES WHO PROVIDE CONSULTATION, TREATMENT, AND PLANNING IN CASES OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.

(5) "PROVIDER" INCLUDES A PHYSICIAN, MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM OR MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM MEMBER, A CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER, A HEALTH CARE FACILITY, OR HEALTH CARE FACILITY PERSONNEL.

(b) Any [physician] PROVIDER who is licensed or authorized to practice [medicine] A PROFESSION in this State shall examine or treat any child, with or without the consent of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian, to determine the nature and extent of any abuse or neglect to the child if the child is brought to the [physician] PROVIDER:

- (1) in accordance with a court order;
- (2) by a representative of a local department OF SOCIAL SERVICES who states that the representative believes the child is an abused or neglected child; [or]
- (3) by a police officer who states that the officer believes that the child is an abused or neglected child; OR
- (4) BY AN INDIVIDUAL REQUIRED UNDER § 5-704 OF THIS SUBTITLE TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT.

(c) If a [physician] PROVIDER examines a child under subsection (b) of this section and determines that emergency medical treatment OR EXPERT CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT CARE is indicated, the physician may treat the child, with or without the consent of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

(d) A [physician] PROVIDER who examines or treats a child under this section shall have the immunity from liability described under § 5-621 of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article.

(e) (1) In accordance with regulations adopted by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall pay for emergency medical treatment charges that are incurred on behalf of a child who is examined or treated under this section.

(2) The child's parent or guardian is liable to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for the payments and shall take any steps necessary to secure health benefits available for the child from a public or private benefit program.