

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
CHILDREN'S DIVISION  
**(CD-162) Safety Information Collection Tool Instructions**

**Purpose:**

The Safety Information Collection Tool is used as a reference tool to assist workers and supervisors in the collection, documentation and review of safety information. This tool may be used as a reference guide or it may also be filled out on line. Safety assessment is an ongoing process through out the life of the case. This tool provides structure, focus, and continuity for workers and supervisors in a variety of circumstances.

The purpose of the CD-162 is to:

- Assist workers and supervisors in the safety information collection, safety analysis, documentation, and review of safety information;
- Provide workers with a reference guide in the field when they are conducting interviews of children, caregivers, or collaterals;
- Provide structure and focus to workers in the documentation of safety components in investigation/family assessment narratives and case summaries;
- Provide structure and focus to workers in the documentation of reasonable efforts or making recommendations to the court; and
- Assist supervisors as a fill in tool for evaluating safety plan, conducting supervisory consultations or supervisory reviews.

This tool may be used in all program areas for safety analysis, as well as for development of treatment goals.

Workers will identify and document:

- Identified threat(s) of danger to each vulnerable child(ren);
- Whether the caregiver's protective capacity is sufficient or insufficient to control any identified threat(s) of danger;
- The agency's response (if required), and
- How the conditions have changed (progress/resolution/new threats of danger or diminished caregiver protective capacity).

For investigations this information should be documented in the CPS-1 (narrative, strengths and needs section and/or summary and conclusion). For FCS and FCOOHC cases the information should be documented in the contacts and monthly summary.

## **Tool Completion:**

This form may be used as a reference or as a fill in form.

## **Six Safety Questions**

Answer the Six Safety Questions with a focus on the safety model. (Threats of Danger, Child Vulnerability and Caregiver's Protective Capacity)

1. Nature and extent of maltreatment;
2. Circumstances surrounding the child maltreatment;
3. Child's day to day functioning;
4. Caregiver's discipline;
5. Caregiver's overall parenting; and
6. Caregiver's day to day functioning;

Printed on the back of the form are the 6 safety questions with bulleted items that provide more detail.

## **Safety Components**

These questions are used to structure the safety analysis of a particular family using the safety components. This step identifies the who we must protect (vulnerable children); what we must protect them from (threats of danger) and what insufficient or diminished caregiver protective capacity we must either substitute for (safety plan if it meets safety threshold criteria) or enhance (treatment plan). This section should provide a detailed description of how the threat works in the family and how to enhance the caregivers capacity to become protective.

- What *threats of danger* exist? (Be child specific)
- What are *child(ren)'s vulnerability*? (Be child specific)
- What *caregiver protective capacity* would a caregiver need to control the identified safety threat(s)? (Cognitive, Emotional, Behavior)
- What *caregiver protective capacity* does this caregiver have? (Cognitive, Emotional, Behavior)
- What *caregiver protective capacity* is insufficient or diminished? (Cognitive, Emotional, Behavior)

## **Safety Threshold Criteria**

Once a safety analysis has been completed, a safety decision of safe or unsafe is completed on the basis of safety threshold criteria.

Safe or Unsafe based on the following:

- **Specific/observable** - Family condition is observable and can be specifically described or explained; the danger is real; can be seen; can be reported; is evidenced in explicit, unambiguous ways.
- **Out of control** - Family conditions can directly affect a child and are unrestrained; unmanaged; without limits or monitoring; not subject to influence, manipulation or internal power; are out of the family's control.
- **Severe Harm** - Harm that can result in pain, serious injury, disablement, grave/debilitating physical health conditions, acute/grievous suffering, terror, impairment, death.
- **Imminence** - Likely to occur in the present or the near future. (can become active at any time)

Memoranda History:

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