

 <p>Children's Services Agency</p> <p>Communication Issuance</p> <p>20-053* Revised 8/17/20 Previous version obsolete</p>	Subject/Title	COVID-19 Response: Supervisory Control Protocol UPDATED
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This version replaces prior versions of communication issuance 20-053. Prior versions are obsolete.

The following provides guidance for Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Children's Protective Services (CPS) supervisors for completion of the Supervisory Control Protocol (SCP) as it relates to activities that may be impacted by current COVID-19 health concerns. Activities impacted by the COVID-19 response are outlined below, including guidance to ensure consistent responses statewide.

Activity 2: Did the worker make face-to-face contact utilizing forensic interview protocol when applicable to address child safety and well-being with each child victim within required timeframes?

Response Guidance: A YES response is appropriate if child well-being was assessed by face-to-face contact, within required timeframes. If face-to-face occurred by worker or law enforcement but a forensic interview was not conducted due to COVID-19 health concerns, a response of YES may be appropriate. The case specific COVID-19 risk and details of how child safety was assessed must be clearly documented within the investigation report.

A NO response should be utilized if for any reason the worker was not able to assess child well-being through face-to-face contact. If the barriers due to COVID-19 make contact impossible, an explanation of "COVID-19" must be provided in the narrative of the SCP with a brief synopsis of the barrier.

Activity 6: Did the worker make face-to-face contact, or at minimum, verify well-being of other children?

Response Guidance: A YES response is appropriate if well-being was verified by face-to-face contact or when barriers are present, if well-being is verified by a person able to provide reliable information concerning the child ([PSM 713-01](#)). If well-being was verified by the use of an allowable alternative, a NO response is appropriate and the case documentation must include the rationale as "COVID-19."

Activity 8: Did the worker contact and interview ALL adults as required by policy?

Response Guidance: A YES response is appropriate if the worker interviewed by face-to-face contact (when required), through use of an allowable alternative (per communication issuance 20-032), or by phone (as allowed within [PSM 713-01](#)). If contact was made by the use of an allowable alternative, the case documentation must include the rationale as "COVID-19."

Activity 11: Did the worker document the conditions of the home environment of the alleged child victim?

Response Guidance: A YES response is appropriate if the worker was safely able to view the home conditions either by entering the home or through some other virtual means. If the worker was unable to view the home due to COVID-19 health concerns, the response should be NO and the explanation should state: "Did not view home due to current COVID-19 health concerns."

Activity 12: Was a medical exam requested or obtained when required by policy?

Response Guidance: A YES response is appropriate if the worker requested an exam or an exam was obtained for the reasons listed within policy ([PSM 713-04](#)). If a worker requested an exam but because of COVID-19 health concerns, an exam was not possible, the response is still YES.

Special Investigative Situations: Any activities within special investigative situations including viewing the home and contact with specific individuals (3CD, 2AL, 3AL, and 4AL) should be answered as they align with the guidance above.

NO Response Due to COVID-19 on Any Activity: If a NO response is appropriate for any activity AND that response is due to COVID-19 health concerns, the supervisor must indicate in the explanation a reasoning of "COVID-19," and a brief synopsis of the case specific difficulty for completing the activity.