PSEM-18-05

February 13, 2018

**MEMORANDUM FOR DIVISION OF SENIOR AND DISABILITY SERVICES ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES STAFF**

FROM: Kathryn Sharp Sapp, Bureau Chief 

Adult Protective Services Policy Unit

Division of Senior and Disability Services

SUBJECT: NEW SIGNIFICANT EVENT INDICATOR FOR OPIOIDS

Legal and illegal opioid use and the impacts of this epidemic has been a hot topic on national and local levels. Recently, the National Adult Protective Services Association has requested statistics from states on the frequency of adult abuse/neglect/exploitation hotlines relative to opioid use.

As a result, our agency has added a new Significant Event Indicator named “Opioid Hotline” to the intake screen in Case Compass to track hotline reports related to opioid use. CRU staff have already begun using the “Opioid Hotline” indicator when reports are received involving opioid use. Effective immediately, all staff shall begin selecting “Opioid Hotline” at intake, during the investigation or at the conclusion of the hotline in the following instances:

* The Eligible Adult is taking more of their opioid medication than is prescribed by a physician;
* The Eligible Adult is going from doctor to doctor in an attempt to obtain opioid medication;
* The Alleged Perpetrator is stealing money from the Eligible Adult in order to purchase opioids;
* The Alleged Perpetrator is stealing from the Eligible Adult’s opioid medication;
* The Alleged Perpetrator is neglecting the Eligible Adult due to their opioid use;
* Other circumstances in which opioid misuse led to Adult Protective Service involvement

All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to Michelle Humphrey at [APSPolicy@health.mo.gov](mailto:APSPolicy@health.mo.gov) or by calling 573-526-8502.

KSS/mh