



**Mandatory “Non-Accidental” Injury Reporting
Oregon Revised Statute 146.750
Guidance for Public Health Nurses**

Summary: HB 2014 passed in 2011, requires Registered Nurses (RNs) (as well as physicians) who have reasonable cause to suspect that injuries were inflicted by non-accidental means to report those injuries to an appropriate law enforcement agency. See Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 146.750
<http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/146.html>.

Common Questions:

What type of injuries am I required to report?

- Physical injury caused by a knife, gun, pistol or other dangerous or deadly weapon
- Serious physical injury--Defined as physical injury which creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious and protracted disfigurement, protracted impairment of health or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ.

Who do I report to? Law enforcement--local police department, county sheriff, Oregon State Police. RNs should note that this is different than child abuse reports which can be made to the Department of Human Services (DHS) or law enforcement.

What is the time limit to report? An oral report must be made immediately followed by a report in writing.

If I make a report, should I also document it in the medical record? Yes, reporting is NOT a substitute for documentation in the medical record. Workplace documentation policies should be in place and reviewed by legal counsel.

If the injured person is a minor, under which law is the report made? Reports should be made pursuant to the Child Abuse reporting law. ORS 146.750 is specific to adults with non-accidental physical injuries.

Am I required to tell clients that I am mandated to make a report? There is no legal requirement to inform the client of the report. However, consider ethical nursing practice and your responsibilities as a mandated reporter.

What can I do to minimize some of the potential dangers to my client from intimate partner violence?

Provide ongoing, supportive care, address client safety and guide the client through available options. Work with the client and law enforcement authorities to meet client needs when handling the report and strive to give the client input into any future plan of action.

Reporting abuse is stressful. Where can I get support? Your supervisor, colleagues, a Oregon Public Health Division Nurse Consultant.

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Decision Tree for Registered Nurses

