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[WYOMING STATUTES 1977](#)  
[TITLE 14. CHILDREN.](#)  
[CHAPTER 3. PROTECTION.](#)  
[ARTICLE 2. CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES.](#)  
[§ 14-3-205 Child abuse or neglect; persons required to report.](#)

(a) Any person who knows or has reasonable cause to believe or suspect that a child has been abused or neglected or who observes any child being subjected to conditions or circumstances that would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, shall immediately report it to the child protective agency or local law enforcement agency or cause a report to be made.

(b) If a person reporting child abuse or neglect is a member of the staff of a medical or other public or private institution, school, facility or agency, he shall notify the person in charge or his designated agent as soon as possible, who is thereupon also responsible to make the report or cause the report to be made. Nothing in this subsection is intended to relieve individuals of their obligation to report on their own behalf unless a report has already been made or will be made.

(Laws 1971, ch. 181, § 2; W.S. 1957, § 14-28.8; Laws 1977, ch. 110, § 2; [W.S. 1977, § 14-2-116](#); Laws 1978, ch. 25, § 1.)

<General Materials (GM) - References, Annotations, or Tables>

#### NOTES, REFERENCES, AND ANNOTATIONS

Admissibility of child's statements to physician attributing fault. --

Where a physician, given his duty and his professional responsibility to determine whether a child abuse syndrome or a condition that requires treatment is present, questions a child concerning how the child was injured in order to assist him with respect to a diagnosis of child abuse syndrome, statements elicited attributing fault are pertinent to his diagnosis and treatment, and admitting these statements into evidence pursuant to the exception contained in [Rule 803\(4\), W.R.E.](#), is consistent with the policy of the court in child abuse cases. [Goldade v. State, 674 P.2d 721 \(Wyo. 1983\)](#), cert. denied, [467 U.S. 1253, 104 S. Ct. 3539, 82 L. Ed. 2d 844 \(1984\)](#).

Immunity provided from liability resulting from reporting. --

[Section 14-3-209](#) does not limit immunity suits based only on reporting. Rather, it provides immunity from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise result because of reporting. Immunity includes participation in legal proceedings, as well as the underlying determination of the abuse which then led to the reporting. [May v. Southeast Wyo. Mental Health Ctr., 866 P.2d 732 \(Wyo. 1993\)](#). Applied in [CP v. Laramie County Dep't of Pub. Assistance & Social Servs., 648 P.2d 512 \(Wyo. 1982\)](#). Stated in [Alicea v. State, 2000 Wyo. LEXIS 223, 13 P.3d 693 \(Wyo. 2000\)](#). Cited in [Leonard v. Converse County Sch. Dist. No. 2, 788 P.2d 1119 \(Wyo. 1990\)](#); [Elmore v. Van Horn, 844 P.2d 1078 \(Wyo. 1992\)](#).

Law reviews. -- For case note, "Evidence - Child Abuse and the Medical Diagnosis or Treatment Exception to the Hearsay Rule. [Goldade v. State, 674 P.2d 721 \(Wyo. 1983\)](#)," see XX Land & Water L. Rev. 735 (1985). For comment, "Fetal Equality?: The Equality State's Response to the Challenge of Protecting Unborn Children," see XXXII Land & Water L. Rev. 193 (1997).

Am. Jur. 2d, ALR and C.J.S. references. -- [Civil liability of physician for failure to diagnose or report battered child syndrome, 97 ALR3d 338](#).

W. S. 1977 § 14-3-205, WY ST § 14-3-205

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