

SKILLED PRACTITIONER RESPONSES

DECISION 1

What is the most important information to obtain right away?

From the list below, indicate: Information that is urgent to obtain, important information that is not urgent to obtain, and information that is not important at this time.

Urgent	Important, not urgent	Not important	Options
	X		A) Records of Jason's school attendance.
X			B) Information about Mary's care and discipline of Jason.
X			C) Whether or not there is a gun in the house.
	X		D) Details about the custody issues and disagreement between Mary and Susan.
	X		E) Information on how the prior allegations were addressed?
		X	F) An assessment of Susan and Stanley's home.
X			G) Jason's perspective on the incident and any injuries.

EXPERT RATIONALE

Important and Urgent:

(B, C, and G): Any time there is concern about a weapon in the home and, in this report, an alleged threat to a child with the weapon, the matter should be addressed immediately. We need to know the severity of the alleged punch.

Important, Not Urgent:

(A, D, and E): The other information can later be obtained as a part of the assessment.

Not Important:

(F): Susan and Stanley reside in another jurisdiction and would not be subject to a home assessment.

DECISION 2

What are your biggest concerns? Rank the following options (1 = most concerning, 6 = least concerning)	
Rank	Options
1	A) The allegation that Mary threatened Jason with a gun.
3	B) The claim that Mary leaves Jason home alone for extended periods of time.
2	C) Reports of Mary using physical discipline with Jason.
5	D) Jason's inconsistent school attendance.
4	E) Possible use of alcohol by Jason.
6	F) The custody disagreements between Susan and Mary.

EXPERT RATIONALE

- 1-3. **(A, C, and B):** Presence of a weapon must always be concerning. The allegations of Jason being punched and left alone overnight for unknown periods of time and under what circumstances and supports are critical to address. If true, all of these can lead to serious injury or harm to Jason.
- 4-6. **(E, D, and F):** The other issues do not affect Jason's immediate safety.