

Q1. What are the conditions under which exemptions from the requirement to report Critical Incidents are provided?

A1. There are specific conditions under which exemptions from the Critical Incidents Policy requirement to report “Use of Restraints” are allowed, outlined in the *Critical Incidents: Restraint Exemption Framework*. The requirements for a restraint to be considered for exemption are 1) High Episodic use of the restraints associated with escalation cycle, or 2) Frequent use of restraints irrespective of the escalation cycle.

Q2. As a service provider, how can I apply for an exemption?

A2. A formal request for exemption must be completed using the *Critical Incidents Request for Exemption Form* or another format containing the required information and approved by a CLBC Integrated Service Manager. A request for exemption must be accompanied by either a Safety Plan being submitted for CLBC’s authorization, or a report on the 6-Month review of an existing Safety Plan and a copy of the authorized Safety Plan. Only those restraints that have been approved under the exemption framework are subject to the exemption. Use of all other restraints, included those in the Safety Plan must continue to be reported as a critical incident as per the *Critical Incidents Policy*.

Q3. Why does the Exemption framework not include Restraints used for Medical Purposes?

A3. The Critical Incidents Restraint Exemption Framework does not apply to restraints used for medical purposes only. Restraints that are required for medical purposes only as prescribed by a health care professional (i.e. not required for behavioural purposes) are not considered restricted practices as defined in the Behaviour Support and Safety Planning Policy and do not need to be reported as critical incidents.

Q4. If my Exemption is approved, how long is it for?

A4. Exemptions are valid only for the period identified in the approved exemption request. At the end of the approved review/reporting period service providers and Behavioural Consultants review exemptions as part of the Safety Plan review process (as required in the Behaviour Support and Safety Planning Policy and Guide) to determine if a renewal requests are needed for any exemptions, any exemptions are no longer required, or any new requests for exemption are needed.

Q5. Does the Exemption Framework apply to all ‘Restricted Practices’?

A5. The Exemption Framework applies only to reporting the use of restraint as defined in the *Critical Incidents Policy*. Service providers must continue to follow the reporting requirements outlined in the policy for any other restricted practices.