



## Appendix Q: Core Guidelines for Determining Immediate Jeopardy

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### Bureau of Facility Standards

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## Learning Goals

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At the conclusion of this training you will be able to:

- Define Immediate Jeopardy (IJ)
- Utilize Appendix Q to identify the 3 components of IJ
- Identify the basic steps which occur after an IJ is identified

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## What is Immediate Jeopardy?

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- “A situation in which entity noncompliance has placed the health and safety of recipients in its care at risk for serious injury, serious harm, serious impairment or death.”

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## What is Immediate Jeopardy?

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- ICF/IID specific definition 42 CFR 442.2 “...a situation in which immediate corrective action is necessary because the provider’s noncompliance with one or more requirements of participation or conditions of participation has caused, or is likely to cause, serious injury, harm, impairment, or death to an individual receiving care in a facility.”

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## What is Appendix Q?

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- Appendix Q: Core Guidelines for Determining Immediate Jeopardy
  - Applicable to all certified Medicare/Medicaid entities (excluding CLIA)

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## Components of IJ

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- Regulatory noncompliance
- Has caused or is likely to cause serious injury, harm, impairment, or death
- Requires immediate corrective action

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## Components of IJ

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- Regulatory noncompliance
  - Each citation must stand on its own and have the supporting evidence tailored to the specific regulations being cited.

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## Components of IJ

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- Harm
  - Has occurred,
  - Is occurring, or
  - Is likely to occur to one or more individuals.

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## Components of IJ

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- Harm
  - Serious Injury
  - Serious Harm
  - Impairment
  - Death

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## Components of IJ

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- Immediacy
  - The noncompliance creates a need for immediate corrective action to prevent serious injury, serious harm, impairment or death from occurring or recurring.

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## Investigating IJ

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- Information Gathering
  - Observation
  - Interview
  - Record Review

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## IJ Decision Making

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- If the facility noncompliance has placed the health and safety of an individual or individuals at risk for serious injury, serious harm, serious impairment or death and immediate action is needed, then an IJ situation exists.

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## IJ Notifications

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- State Agency
  - IJ template
- Facility Administrator
  - IJ template
- Other Agencies

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## Removal Plan

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- Documents all immediate actions the facility will take.
- Details how the facility will keep individuals safe.
- Includes the date the facility asserts the likelihood for serious harm no longer exists.

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## 2567 Documentation

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- Date the IJ began and the date the facility was notified of the IJ.
- Noncompliance at specific regulations and identification of the individuals affected.
- Date the IJ was removed (if applicable) and a statement of the seriousness of the remaining non-compliance (if any).

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## Prevention

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- Ensure staff are familiar with Federal Regulations and Appendix Q.
- Develop and implement systems to safeguard against IJ situations.
- Monitor to ensure systems are adhered to.

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- ***Please send your comments or questions to [fsb@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:fsb@dhw.idaho.gov)***