Threshold Criteria

**Observable**
This explains the parent’s actions, feelings, thoughts regarding their child/ren. This is explained with making the connection of the condition and affects it has on the child safety. This information is not based on an incident.

**Vulnerable Child**
State the observable condition and discuss what makes the child vulnerable to that condition. This looks at the child’s ability to self-protect from the identified condition/s in the home. There are factors to be assessed include age, physical disabilities, powerlessness, provocative, cognitive abilities... etc.

**Out of Control**
The condition is not being controlled by anything or anybody within the family network. This is the key characteristic about “control” that supports CPS judgments with respect to families. What is the family’s ability to control or manage? This area you are looking at resources within the family unit.

**Severity**
The behavior, family condition or situation could result in severe harm to a vulnerable child. If this behavior, condition, situation continues what are the likely results?

**Imminent**
The behavior or condition is active or likely to become active at any time. When judging this area it’s important to gather information around the patterns of behaviors and the parents’ thoughts and feelings regarding the conditions.