The document \*"Abuse vs. Coaching"\* outlines procedural guidelines and standards for handling cases involving allegations of child abuse and potential parental alienation, specifically using Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) guidelines. Here are the key points:

### Forensic Interviewing Standards

- \*\*Neutral and Fact-Finding Approach\*\*: Interviews must minimize interviewer influence, encouraging the child to freely recall details. Forensic interviewers are trained to detect signs of parental coaching or undue influence.

- \*\*Consistency and Spontaneity\*\*: Reliable abuse allegations are often marked by consistent and spontaneous statements from the child that align with observable evidence【40†source】.

### Assessing Credibility of Allegations

- \*\*Evaluation of Statements\*\*: Professionals assess if the child's statements are consistent with physical evidence or behavioral indicators of trauma. Repetitive or adult-driven themes can indicate parental coaching.

- \*\*Alienation Signs\*\*: Signs of alienation by a parent, such as when a child shows detachment or overuse of adult concepts, are carefully documented. These might suggest the influence of one parent over the child to reject the other parent【40†source】.

### Child Protective Services (CPS) Investigative Procedures

- \*\*Cross-Reporting Requirements\*\*: Allegations must be cross-reported with law enforcement as per Oregon statutes, ensuring a collaborative approach.

- \*\*Substantiation of Claims\*\*: Abuse claims are substantiated based on credible evidence. If the risk of alienation is significant, it will be considered in the CPS assessment outcome【40†source】.

### Application to Allegations of Abuse vs. Alienation

- \*\*Differentiating Abuse from Alienation\*\*: Detailed, consistent descriptions from the child supported by evidence favor abuse substantiation. Conversely, if statements appear rehearsed or unusually sophisticated, parental alienation is more likely【40†source】.

This protocol ensures that investigations are systematic, evidence-based, and sensitive to the complexities of potential abuse and coaching. If you'd like to explore specific applications or additional details, feel free to ask.