



ABUSE INDICATORS

Physical: (Assault, sexual assault, physical restraint, coercion) bruises, welts, swelling, lacerations, punctures, fractures, restricted movement, repeated falls, internal injuries, burns, venereal disease, genital infections, vaginal/anal bleeding.

Neglect/Self Neglect: malnourishment, emaciated, dehydrated, confused, inappropriate clothing, squalor, under/over medicated, absence of required hearing, visual and mobility aids, skin sores, malodorous, no follow through on medical services, abandonment.

Psychological: agitation, fearlessness (especially in presence of caregiver), low self-esteem, sleep disturbance, withdrawal, deference to caregiver.

Financial: unpaid bills, change in living conditions, no money/food/clothes, absence of aides and services, refusal to spend money without agreement of caregiver, sudden appearance of previously uninvolved relatives, abrupt changes in will/accounts, forged signature, sudden debt accrual.

**SUSPECT ABUSE
NEGLECT AND/OR
SELF-NEGLECT?**

AND

**SUSPECT COGNITIVE
PHYSICAL, MENTAL
IMPAIRMENT?**

NO

YES

**TALK WITH
THE ADULT**

**DISCUSS SAFETY
& SUPPORTS**

**DECREASE ISOLATION &
DEPENDENCE**

**REFER TO COMMUNITY
RESOURCES**

ASSESS:

**IS THE ADULT
ABLE TO SEEK
SUPPORT AND
ASSISTANCE
ON THEIR OWN?**

Assess for your safety and the safety of the vulnerable adult. If appropriate ask questions related to the suspected abuse and neglect.

Refer to your local health unit who has trained professionals to assist with assessments of capability.

YES

NO

**DETERMINE WHO
ARE THE FORMAL
AND INFORMAL
SUPPORTS FOR
THE ADULT**

DESIGNATED RESPONDERS:
Have responsibility and training for looking into reports of abuse and neglect

**REFER TO AGENCIES
WITH AUTHORITY TO
RESPOND, INCLUDING
POLICE SERVICE**

**RESPONDERS
REFERENCE NATIONAL
FIRST NATIONS
REACT MANUAL**

**REACT
IN SITUATIONS OF
ABUSE, NEGLECT
AND SELF-NEGLECT
OF OLDER
ADULTS!**

**ADVISE PRIMARY
HEALTH CARE
PROVIDER OF
SITUATION AND
ACTIONS TAKEN**

**MOST RESPONSIBLE
HEALTH CARE
PROVIDER REFERENCE
SCREENING TOOLS**

SAFETY:

Be aware of Your Safety as well as the safety of the Older Adult.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

Don't disclose the identity of the person who made the report. Collect information about the situation discreetly and keep it confidential.

POLICE REPORTS:

Work with your local police agency when you suspect crimes have been committed against older adults that are unable to seek support and assistance on their own.

EMERGENCY IDENTIFICATION:

Call 911 or your local emergency response number in emergencies to preserve the older adults life, to prevent serious physical or mental harm, or to protect assets from significant damage or loss.

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