



# Indicators of Adult Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation

## ABUSE

- Multiple/severe bruises, welts
- Bilateral bruises on upper arms
- Clustered bruises on trunk
- Bruises which resemble an object
- Old and new bruises
- Signs of bone fractures
- Broken bones, open wounds, skull fracture
- Striking, shoving, beating, kicking, scratching
- Internal injuries
- Sprains, dislocation, lacerations, cuts, punctures
- Black eyes
- Bed sores
- Untreated injuries
- Broken glasses/frames
- Untreated medical condition
- Burns, scalding
- Restrained, tied to bed, tied to chair, locked in, isolated
- Overmedicated
- Verbal assaults, threats, intimidation
- Prolonged interval between injury and treatment
- Fear of caregiver
- Individual is prohibited from being alone with visitors
- Individual has recent or sudden changes in behavior
- Unexplained fear
- Unwarranted suspicion

---

## NEGLECT

- Untreated medical condition
  - Untreated mental health problem(s)
  - Bedsores
  - Medication not taken as prescribed
  - Malnourished
  - Dehydrated
  - Dirt, fleas, lice on person
  - Fecal/urine smell
  - Animal infested living quarters
  - Insect infested living quarters
  - Non-functioning toilet
  - No heat, running water, electricity
  - Homelessness
  - Lacks needed supervision
  - Lack of food or inadequate food
  - Uneaten food over period of time
  - Accumulated newspaper/debris
  - Unpaid bills
  - Inappropriate or inadequate clothing
  - Needs but does not have glasses, hearing aid, dentures, prosthetic device
  - Hazardous living conditions
  - Soiled bedding/furniture
-



# Indicators of Adult Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation

## FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

- Unexplained disappearance of funds, valuables, or personal belongings
- Adult child is financially dependent upon the older person or the older person is dependent on caregiver
- Misuse of money or property by another person
- Transfer of property or savings
- Excessive payment for care and/or services
- Individual unaware of the amount of his or her income
- Depleted bank account
- Sudden appearance of previously uninvolved relatives/friends
- Change in payee, power of attorney or will
- Caregiver is overly frugal
- Unexplained cash flow
- Unusual household composition
- Chronic failure to pay bills
- Individual is kept isolated
- Signatures on check that do not resemble the individual's signature
- Individual doesn't know what happened to money
- Checks no longer come to house
- Individual reports signing papers and doesn't know what was signed

---

## SEXUAL ABUSE

- Untreated medical condition
- Genital or urinary irritation, injury, infection or scarring
- Presence of a sexually transmitted disease
- Frequent, unexplained physical illness
- Intense fear reaction to an individual or to people in general
- Mistrust of others
- Nightmares, night terrors, sleep disturbance
- Direct or coded disclosure of sexual abuse
- Disturbed peer interactions
- Depression or blunted affect
- Poor self-esteem
- Self-destructive activity or suicidal ideation



**Suspicious that an adult is being abused, neglected or exploited?  
Don't wait. Call the 24-hour, toll-free APS hotline at:**

**(888) 832-3858**

**Or call your local department of social services.  
Calls may be made anonymously.**

