



courtesy of **Adult Protective Services**



### What is neglect?

Neglect includes failures by caregivers to support the physical, emotional and social needs of adults dependent on others for their care and well-being. Neglect can take the form of not providing adequate food, medications, or personal care to the adult.

### What are the signs of neglect?

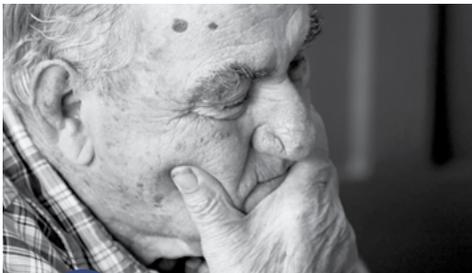
- ✓ Bedsores
- ✓ Lacks needed supervision
- ✓ Lack of food or inadequate food
- ✓ Soiled bedding
- ✓ Untreated medical condition
- ✓ Inappropriate or inadequate clothing
- ✓ Dehydration

### What are some risk factors of neglect?

- ✓ Excessive caregiver stress
- ✓ Lack of resources and support for the caregiver
- ✓ Sudden increase in caregiver responsibilities
- ✓ Isolation of caregiver and vulnerable adult
- ✓ Worsening health condition of the adult

### What if I'm not sure?

Do you just have a "feeling" about a situation but can't verify the details? APS professionals are trained to handle such situations. Based on your report, APS will assess the situation and determine how best to respond. Your local department can determine the best course of action in any given situation.



**CONTACT** your local APS agency if you notice signs of neglect:



Adult Protective Services

Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

To report suspected adult abuse, neglect, or exploitation, call your **local department of social services** or the 24-hour, toll-free APS hotline at: (888) 832-3858.



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## What is financial exploitation?

Financial exploitation includes the misuse, mishandling or exploitation of property, possessions, or assets of adults. It also includes using another's assets without consent, under false pretense, or through coercion and/or manipulation.

## What are the signs of financial exploitation?

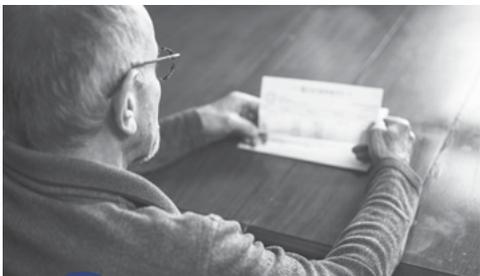
- ✓ Unusual financial activity (e.g. large bank withdrawal or use of ATMs or credit cards not normally used)
- ✓ Missing checks or missing bank statements/records
- ✓ Address or names have been changed on accounts
- ✓ Purchases made without the adult's knowledge or consent
- ✓ New signatures on accounts or forged signatures
- ✓ Evidence that the person fell victim to a scam
- ✓ Missing valuables
- ✓ Change to a financial power of attorney
- ✓ Change of ownership of bank accounts or the deed to a physical property such as a home

## What are some risk factors of financial exploitation?

- ✓ Change in adult's or caregiver's financial circumstances
- ✓ Little to no oversight of finances
- ✓ Discomfort with technology or modern payment methods
- ✓ Cognitive impairment or dementia
- ✓ Social isolation

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### What is self-neglect?

Self-Neglect is when an adult is unable to meet their own essential physical, psychological, or social needs, which threatens their health, safety, and well-being.

### What are the signs of self-neglect?

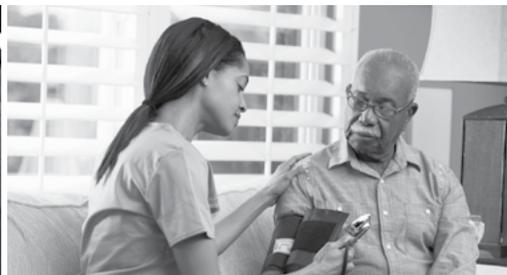
- ✓ Untreated medical condition
- ✓ Medication not taken as prescribed
- ✓ Hazardous housing conditions or home lacks heat, electricity or running water
- ✓ Poor personal hygiene
- ✓ Animal-or insect-infested residence
- ✓ Accumulated newspapers, garbage or debris in home

### What are some risk factors of self-neglect?

- ✓ Loss of spouse or intimate partner
- ✓ Worsening medical condition or a physical disability
- ✓ Social isolation
- ✓ Lack of a caregiver
- ✓ Cognitive impairment or dementia

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### What is physical or sexual abuse?

Physical abuse may include slapping, hitting, beating, bruising or causing someone physical pain, injury or suffering. This also could include confining an adult against his/her will, such as locking someone in a room or tying him/her to furniture. Sexual Abuse includes physical force, threats, or coercion to facilitate non-consensual touching, fondling, intercourse or other sexual activities.

### What are the signs of physical or sexual abuse?

- ✓ Unexplained bruising
- ✓ Strangulation
- ✓ Fractures
- ✓ Burns
- ✓ Fear of caregiver
- ✓ Over or under medicating the adult
- ✓ Genital injury, infection or scarring

### What are some risk factors?

- ✓ Caregiver has substance use disorder
- ✓ Violence or conflict in the home
- ✓ Social isolation
- ✓ Cognitive impairment or dementia

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