

Elder Abuse:

A public health issue
that affects us all



At least **10% of adults age 65+**, will experience some form of elder abuse in a given year, with some **simultaneously experiencing more than one type of abuse.**



Elder abuse accounts for higher rates of hospitalization and institutionalization, at an **estimated annual cost to our nation's healthcare system of \$5.3 billion.**



In almost **60% of elder abuse and neglect incidents, the perpetrator is a family member**, with two thirds of perpetrators being adult children or spouses.

Elder abuse is most commonly associated with physical abuse, but elder abuse is a crime that can take many forms.

Financial abuse is common, as is sexual abuse, physical abuse, and mental abuse. Abandonment, isolation, and neglect – either self-neglect or at the hand of family, caregivers, or others – is also a form of elder abuse.

Elder abuse is a silent problem that robs aging adults of their dignity and stability.

In California, approximately 202,549 adults age 60 and older have experienced elder abuse; however, elder abuse is significantly underreported. For every known case of elder abuse, there are 24 cases that go unreported.

Elder abuse is also a critical public health issue. Elder abuse can take a heavy toll on survivors' health and emotional well-being. They report higher rates of depression, often withdraw from social interactions, and blame themselves which can result in a spiral of shame and silence. Survivors also have higher rates of hospitalization and are three times more likely to die prematurely.

Let's work together to build a community in which people of all ages are safe and supported.

If you suspect abuse, report it to your local Adult Protective Services agency.

For more information about how you can prevent elder abuse, please visit www.agencyonaging4.org/preventelderabuse.

Source: National Council on Aging

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Elder Abuse

Stay Connected
Spot the Signs
Report Concerns

Report Elder Abuse

Call your local Adult Protective Services agency

Nevada County

(888) 339-7248

Placer County

(888) 886-5401

Sacramento County

(916) 874-9377

Sierra County

(530) 289-3720

Sutter County

(530) 822-7227

Yolo County

(530) 661-2727

Yuba County

(530) 749-6471

Report Abuse in Long-Term Care Facilities

Your local long-Term Care Ombudsman Program investigates elder abuse complaints in long-term care and residential care facilities in the above seven counties.

(916) 376-8910



@agencyonaging4

www.agencyonaging4.org

Stay in touch with the older adults in your life.

Staying connected with older adults in your life makes it easier to spot common signs of abuse: bedsores, unexplained bruises, sudden changes in behavior, large bank withdrawals, or appearing frightened around particular people.

You can report any of these 'signs' to your local Adult Protective Services agency – even if you're not certain that abuse is happening.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

- Bruises, black eyes, welts
- Broken bones, cuts, sprains
- Sudden behavioral change
- Caregiver refuses to leave the elder adult alone

FINANCIAL ABUSE

- Basic needs not being met
- Bills not paid
- New credit cards or increased cash withdrawals
- Unusual purchases by caregiver

MENTAL ABUSE

- Threatening significant physical harm
- Using derogatory names, insults, profanity
- Ridiculing
- Harassment, coercion, intimidation, humiliation

NEGLECT

- Lack of adequate food and water
- Dirty clothing and changes in personal hygiene
- Unusually messy home
- Lack of medical aids or medications

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