

# Safety Tip of the week

16/04/2021

## Elder Abuse

### Types of Abuse and the Warning Signs

#### Physical

- Bruises, black eyes, welts, lacerations and rope marks
- Broken bones, open wounds, cuts, punctures and/or untreated injuries
- Sprains, dislocations, and internal injuries/bleeding
- Physical signs of being a subject of punishment, signs of being restrained
- At-risk adult's report of being hit, slapped, kicked, or mistreated
- At-risk adult's sudden change in behavior
- Caregiver's refusal to allow visitors to see the at-risk adult alone

#### Sexual

- Bruises or bleeding near sensitive/private areas
- Torn, stained, or bloody underclothing
- Unexplained sexually transmitted diseases
- Becoming upset when bathed, changed or examined
- An at-risk's report of being sexually assaulted or raped

#### Neglect

- Dehydration, malnutrition, untreated bed sores, and poor personal hygiene
- Unattended/untreated health problems
- Hazardous/unsafe living conditions (ex: bad wiring, no heat, no running water, etc.)
- Unsanitary/unclean living conditions
- At-risk adult's report of being mistreated

#### Emotional

- Being extremely withdrawn and non-communicative
- Unusual behavior usually attributed to dementia (ie: sucking, biting, rocking)
- An at-risk adult's report of being verbally or emotionally mistreated

#### Financial

- Sudden changes in bank account or banking practice
- The inclusion of additional names on at-risk adult's bank signature card
- Unauthorized withdrawals of the at-risk adult's funds using via ATM card
- Abrupt changes in a will or other financial documents
- Unexplained disappearance of funds or valuable possessions

