

Institutional abuse of older adults

Royal College of Psychiatrists - Education On Abuse Neglect Elderly

Table 2. Diseases and Conditions That Mimic Abuse in Older Persons

| Abuse mimicked | Condition | Abuse mimicked | Condition |
|-----------------|--|----------------|--|
| Bruise | Allergic reactions | Neglect | Contusion from medication or hypernatremia |
| trauma | Bleeding disorder secondary to medication | | Dehydration secondary to medication |
| contusion | Cushing syndrome | | Diabetes mellitus |
| | Feed dysregulation | | Fecal impaction |
| | Fracture from osteoporosis or Paget disease of bone | | Poor wound healing |
| | Frigo photosensitive skin | | Urinary tract infection (in women) |
| | Genital pruritus | Sexual | Vaginitis |
| | Genital ulcers | abuse | Cervicitis, vaginosis, proctitis |
| | Subdural hematoma secondary to a fall or coagulopathy | | Decreased and/or erratic function |
| | Thrombocytopenia | | Feed dysregulation |
| Burns and scabs | Contact dermatitis | | Inflammatory bowel disease |
| | Stevens-Johnson syndrome from medication | | Perineal excoriation from incontinence or lichen sclerosis |
| | Toxic epidermal necrolysis | | Vaginal bleeding and excoriation from low estrogen |
| Chemical | Antigenic colophony or drug-drug interactions | Sexual | Vaginitis |
| resistant | Increased drug levels secondary to decreased renal clearance | abuse | Arteriosclerosis caused by mental illness |
| | | | Inflammatory bowel disease |
| | | | Malabsorption caused by hypothyroidism |
| | | | Weight loss from diabetes mellitus |

Adapted from Glicks M. Elder-mistreatment: a review. Arch Intern Med. 2000;160:1035-1044.

Description: -

-Institutional abuse of older adults

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Translations from Greek -- no. 1

Council report -- CR84Institutional abuse of older adults

Notes: Due for review in 2005.

This edition was published in 2000



Filesize: 39.103 MB

Tags: #Risk #and #Protective #Factors

Elder abuse

Journal of Gerontological Social Work. Because most abuse occurs in the home by family members or caregivers, there needs to be a concerted effort to educate the public about the special needs and problems of older adults and the risk factors for abuse.

Institutional abuse of older adults: what we know, what we need to know

Sometimes older adults harm themselves through self-neglect e. Personal Problems of Abusers Particularly in the case of adult children, abusers often are dependent on their victims for financial assistance, housing, and other forms of support. Some key findings in this area are as follows.

Abuse and Neglect of Older Adults: Understanding Gender Differences

Authors: Lawrence Robinson, Joanna Saisan, MSW, and Jeanne Segal, Ph. Dependency is a contributing factor in elder abuse.

Physical Abuse of the Elderly

A caregiver might not even know he or she is being neglectful or abusive. This caregiver will talk to the elderly person to ascertain what happened at the time of the incident. Each elder abuse report is a snapshot of what is taking place.

Physical Abuse of the Elderly

In fact, a case study in Canada suggests that the high elder abuse statistics are from repeat offenders who, like in other forms of abuse, practice elder abuse for the associated with the act. The elder may also exhibit behavior mimicking dementia, such as rocking or mumbling.

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