



Elder Abuse Prevention Unit

www.eapu.com.au

What is Elder Abuse?

The World Health Organisation defines Elder Abuse as "a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person".

Under this definition Elder Abuse does not include criminal acts by a stranger or of self-neglect.

The United Nations Principles for Older Persons includes principles of Independence, Participation, Care, Self-Fulfillment and Dignity.

If you are physically unsafe please call the police on 000.

Types of Abuse

- **Psychological Abuse**

Psychological abuse is the infliction of mental anguish, involving actions that cause fear of violence, isolation or deprivation, and feelings of shame, indignity and powerlessness.

- **Financial Abuse**

Financial abuse involves the illegal or improper use of someone else's finances or property. Examples of financial abuse can include not allowing someone access to their money or misusing an Enduring Power of Attorney.

- **Physical Abuse**

Physical abuse is the infliction of physical pain or injury or physical coercion. Examples include hitting, slapping, pushing or physically restraining.

- **Sexual Abuse**

Sexual abuse is sexually abusive or exploitative behavior. Examples include: rape, indecent touching, sexual harassment or inappropriate / unwelcomed comments.

- **Social Abuse**

Social abuse is preventing a person from having social contact with friends or family.

- **Neglect**

Neglect is the failure of a carer to provide the necessities of life to a person for whom they are caring. Neglect can be intentional or unintentional.

Service funded by:



Call the Helpline on 1300 651 192 between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.



UnitingCare Community Values Compassion | Respect | Justice | Working Together | Leading through Learning

UnitingCare Community Services Lifeline | Child and Family Care | Counselling | Crisis Support | Disability Support | Social Inclusion