# Blacktown City Elder Abuse Prevention Collaborative Who do you call?

### **Local Contacts**

Blacktown City Elder Abuse Prevention Collaborative Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) Chronic & Complex Services	9839 6287 1800 600 681
Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) Integrated Violence Prevention & Response Service	9881 8787
Women's Activity Self Help House (WASH)	9677 1962
West Connect Domestic Violence Services Sydney West Aboriginal Health Service	4732 2318 9832 1356
Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Blacktown Police Station	9831 2070 9671 9199
Mount Druitt Police Station Riverstone Police Station	8805 8399 9838 2199

### **State Contacts**

Police or Ambulance	000
Ageing and Disability Abuse Helpline	1800 628 221
NSW Rape Crisis	1800 424 017
Domestic Violence Line	1800 656 463
Seniors Rights Service	1800 424 079
TIS (language interpreters)	13 14 50
My Aged Care (assessment for services)	1800 200 422
Carer Gateway	1800 422 737
National Dementia Helpline	1800 100 500
Let's Talk Elder Support and Mediation Service	1300 364 277







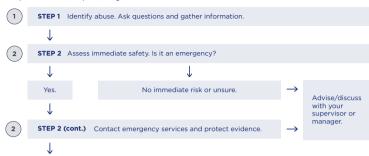


Meals on Wheels



# 5 steps for responding to abuse of an older person or adult with disability.

Note: The older person or adult with disability could also be the carer. Identify if it is appropriate to talk with the person first before proceeding.



Discussion with the older If advice is needed, Discussion person suggests abuse or contact the Ageing and suggests it

STEP 3 Provide support to the older person or or adult with disability.

possible abuse or adult with disability suggests abuse, neglect or exploitation, or high risk of this occurring. contact the Ageing and Disability Abuse Helpline for information, support and referral options. suggests it is not abuse, neglect or exploitation.

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STEP 4 Inform manager & document.



#### STED

- Ask the older person or adult with disability what they want to do about their situation. If there are concerns of capacity, include the substitute decision-maker (if this person is not the person suspected of abuse) in the conversation.
- Discuss referral options.
- Seek consent from the older person or adult with disability to make a referral.
- Make appropriate referrals.
- Leave information (if safe to do so) if the older person or adult with disability refuses assistance, and keep the lines of communication open.
- Consider implementing any local or regional protocols, interagency protocols and service coordination plans.
- Ensure procedures are in place for coordination and/or monitoring, and follow-up as required.



options.



## **Behaviours**

### **Abuse Types**

## Signs

**Financial abuse** is threatening to take someone's money or assets, misusing another person's money without permission, or stealing and abusing power for financial gain.



Significant bank withdrawals, that may include changes to a Will.

No money to pay for essentials for the home, including food, clothing, and utilities.

**Psychological abuse** is threatening, pressuring or intimidating someone verbally, or emotionally blackmailing them. This also includes threatening to isolate someone from friends and family.



Resignation, shame, depression, and tearfulness.

Social withdrawal, worry or anxiety after a visit by specific person or people.

**Neglect** is a type of abuse that means a vulnerable person's basic needs are not being met. This could be not providing adequate food, clothing or shelter, not keeping someone safe, or refusing to meet a vulnerable person's healthcare needs.



Inadequate clothing, complaints of being too cold or too hot.

Poor personal hygiene with an unkempt appearance.

Unexplained weight loss, dehydration, poor skin integrity, malnutrition.

**Physical abuse** is intentionally pushing, shoving, kicking or injuring someone else. This includes physically restraining or locking someone up in their home.



Internal or external injuries (sprains, dislocations and fractures, pressure sores, unexplained bruises or marks on different areas of the body, pain on touching).

**Sexual abuse** is having non-consensual contact with someone. This could be enforcing nudity, or inappropriate washing or handling.



Unexplained STD or incontinence (bladder or bowel).

Injury and trauma, for example scratches, bruises to face, neck, chest, abdomen, thighs or buttocks.

Anxiety around the perpetrator.

The most common type of **exploitation** is financial. This means someone takes money, assets or allowances from a vulnerable person for their own use and without permission.

Exploitation can also be someone who sells, transfers or changes property titles



Similar to financial abuse, signs can include unpaid bills, unexplained shortage of money or unusual activity appearing on bank statements.