

When to Report Abuse Checklist

If you witness a life-threatening situation involving a senior or adult with disabilities, dial 911. Contact your local Adult Protective Services agency any time you observe or suspect the following:

- Sudden inability to meet essential physical, psychological or social needs threatening health, safety or well-being
- Disappearing from contact with neighbors, friends or family
- Bruising or welts on the skin, especially those appearing on the face or lateral and anterior region of the arms (physically abused elders are [much more likely to display bruises](#) than seniors injured by accident)
- Fingerprints or handprints visible on the face, neck, arms or wrists
- Burns from scalding, cigarettes, or in shapes of objects such as an iron
- Cuts, lacerations or puncture wounds
- Sprains, fractures or dislocations
- Internal injuries or vomiting
- Appearing with torn, stained, bloody clothing
- Appearing disheveled, in soiled clothing or inappropriately attired for climate
- Appearing hungry, malnourished, disoriented or confused

<https://www.napsa-now.org/get-informed/what-is-abuse/>