



Patrick Doherty

ABUSE IN LATER LIFE EDUCATION SERIES FOR ADVOCATES:
**NEGLECT, SELF-NEGLECT
& THE ROLE OF APS**

Module 7

National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life

2017

Office on Violence Against Women Abuse in Later Life Program

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As a Result of This Training, Participants Will Be Better Able to:

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- Define neglect and self-neglect
- Identify indicators of neglect
- Initiate contact with adult protective services and other professionals when appropriate

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Neglect

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- Physical neglect
- Emotional neglect
- Abandonment
- Financial neglect

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Common Indicators of Neglect #1

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- Sudden inability to meet essential physical, psychological, or social needs which threatens health, safety, or well-being
- Disappearing from contact with neighbors, friends, or family
- Appearing hungry, malnourished, or with a sudden weight loss
- Appearing disoriented or confused
- Suddenly appearing disheveled or wearing soiled clothing

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Common Indicators of Neglect #2

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- ❑ Expressing feelings of hopelessness, worthlessness, or insignificance
- ❑ Failing to take prescribed medications or nutritional supplements
- ❑ Blaming self for problems arising with family or caregivers
- ❑ Living in squalor or hazardous situations such as hoarding or cluttering
(NAPSA, 2017)

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Self-Neglect

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Individuals ... “who fail to meet their own essential physical, psychological or social needs, which threatens their health, safety and well-being. This includes failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter and health care for one’s own needs.”

(NAPSA, 2017)

*No offender – but be sure to ask follow-up questions

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Connecting with Local Resources

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- Health care professionals
- Mental health professionals and substance abuse programs
- Aging services network – contact Area Agency on Aging
- Adult protective services

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Overview of APS

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Contacting APS: Considerations

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- Confidentiality: When the victim has cognitive capacity to make decisions, what does the victim want?
- Mandatory reporting: If you must report, address safety planning
- Consultation and referrals

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Summary

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- Older victims may experience neglect or self-neglect.
- Keep indicators in mind. Ask questions.
- Reach out to other professionals as appropriate.

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Video Presenters

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- Ricker Hamilton
Maine Department of Health and Human Services
- Nadia Fiorini
Seattle Police Department
- Deborah Holt Knight
New York City Adult Protective Services

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Special Appreciation

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To Lova, for the courage to tell your story so others may benefit.

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Thank You

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- Special thanks to Terra Nova Films for the ongoing working partnership with NCALL and the beautiful video production
- www.terranova.org

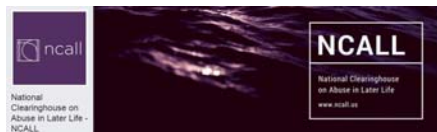


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Staying Connected to NCALL and Other Advocates

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- Sign up for our newsletter: <http://oi.vresp.com/?fid=03fcc93262>
- Join our listserv for advocates serving older survivors: ncall@ncall.us
- Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ncall.us
- Join us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/ncall_us



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National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL)

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National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life,
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(Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence)

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