

elder abuse

ELDER ABUSE IS COMMON, LETHAL, AND EXPENSIVE

ELDER ABUSE IS EXPENSIVE

Victims and families lose lifetime savings, often almost overnight, and may suffer physical and other types of abuse related to the exploitation.

Financial institutions lose significant amounts in deposits; money which is seldom recovered.

In one study, almost one in ten financial abuse victims turned to Medicaid as a direct result of their own monies being stolen from them.

Jilene Gunther. *The Utah Cost of Financial Exploitation*. March, 2011. Utah Division of Aging and Adult Services.

The National Adult Protective Services Resource Center (NAPSRC) is a project (No. 90ER0002/01) of the U.S. Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), administered by the National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA). Grantees carrying out projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Therefore, points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official Administration on Aging or DHHS policy.



National Adult Protective Services Resource Center



ELDER ABUSE LEADS TO ILLNESS AND DEATH

Abused seniors are three times more likely to die prematurely.

Lachs, M. et al. (1998). *The Mortality of Elder Mistreatment*. Journal of the American Medical Association, Vol 280, No. 5, 428 – 432.

Elder abuse victims are four times more likely to go into a nursing home.

Lachs, Mark. Testimony before the Senate Special Committee on Aging. March 2, 2011. Washington, DC.

Abuse victims utilize healthcare services at higher rates.

Koss, M. P., Heslet, L. *Somatic consequences of violence against women*. Arch Fam Med 1992. Sep; 1(1):53-9. Archives of Family Medicine, 1, 53-59. (Those who had experienced abuse accessed the health care system 2 to 2.5 times as often).

ELDER ABUSE IS COMMON

One in ten seniors reported being abused, neglected or exploited in the previous twelve months.

Acierno, R., Hernandez, M. A., Amstadter, A. B., Resnick, H. S., Steve, K., Muzzy, W., & Kilpatrick, D. G. (2010). *Prevalence and correlates of emotional, physical, sexual, neglectful, and financial abuse in the United States: The National Elder Mistreatment Study*. American Journal of Public Health, 100, 292-297.

Elder abuse is vastly underreported

Only one in 23.5 cases reported to any agency; for financial abuse only one in 44 cases is reported, and for neglect it is one in 57.

Lachs, Mark, et al. (2011) *Under the Radar: New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study Final Report*. Lifespan of Greater Rochester, Inc.; Weill Cornell Medical Center of Cornell University and New York City Department for the Aging.

90% of abusers are family members or trusted others.

90% of elder abuse and neglect incidents are by known perpetrators, usually family members.

National Center on Elder Abuse, 1998. *The National Elder Abuse Incidence Study: Final Report*. Washington, DC: Administration for Children and Families & Administration on Aging, US Department of Health and Human Services.

Over 95% of seniors live in the community and not in facilities.

2006 – 2007 census data: 1.8 million people live in nursing homes, 52.4 million people are age 60 and older = 3.4% living in long term care.