

## Case Study: Mr. Adams

[Case study drawn from the NAPS Core Competency Training: Overview]

**Directions:** In your small groups, choose a note taker and read the scenario and answer the questions that follow. Be prepared to share your answers with the large group.

### APS Report

Mr. Adams is 86 years old. He suffers from diabetes and is confined to a wheelchair. After his wife died two years ago, he moved in with his two daughters, Linda and Barbara, who share a two-bedroom apartment. The older man sleeps on the living room couch. The arrangement was intended to be temporary, but Linda and Barbara have not been able to find him another place to live.

A neighbor called APS reporting that the older man is left sitting in front of the television for many hours at a time, often in urine. The last time she visited him, he asked her for a glass of water and drank two glasses in rapid succession. She also noted that he seems to have lost weight. She expressed her concerns to Linda and Barbara who became very defensive. Since then, they have not allowed her to visit.

What type of abuse do you suspect?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Abuse         | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-Neglect                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional Abuse        | <input type="checkbox"/> Treatment without consent.             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Exploitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Unreasonable confinement or restraint. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neglect                | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Abuse                         |

For each type of abuse checked, what are the indicators?

Type of Abuse	Indicators
<p>“Physical abuse” means the intentional or reckless infliction of bodily harm. [“Bodily harm” means physical pain or injury, illness, or any impairment of physical condition.]</p>	
<p>“Emotional abuse” means language or behavior that serves no legitimate purpose and is intended to be intimidating, humiliating, threatening, frightening, or otherwise harassing, and that does or reasonably could intimidate, humiliate, threaten, frighten, or otherwise harass the individual to whom the conduct or language is directed.</p>	
<p>“Financial exploitation” means any of the following:            (1) Obtaining an individual’s money or property by deceiving or enticing the individual, or by forcing, compelling, or coercing the individual to give, sell at less than fair market value, or in other ways convey</p>	

<p>money or property against his or her will without his or her informed consent. (2) Theft. (3) The substantial failure or neglect of a fiscal agent to fulfill his or her responsibilities. (4) Unauthorized use of an individual's personal identifying information or documents (5) Unauthorized use of an entity's identifying information or documents. (6) Forgery. (7) Financial transaction card crimes.</p>	
<p>“Neglect” means the failure of a caregiver, as evidenced by an act, omission, or course of conduct, to endeavor to secure or maintain adequate care, services, or supervision for an individual, including food, clothing, shelter, or physical or mental health care, and creating significant risk or danger to the individual's physical or mental health. <sup>a</sup></p>	
<p>“Self-neglect” means a significant danger to an individual's physical or mental health because the individual is responsible for his or her own care but fails to obtain adequate care, including food, shelter, clothing, or medical or dental care.</p>	
<p>“Treatment without consent” means the administration of medication to an individual who has not provided informed consent, or the performance of psychosurgery, electroconvulsive therapy, or experimental research on an individual who has not provided informed consent, with the knowledge that no lawful authority exists for the administration or performance.</p>	
<p>“Unreasonable confinement or restraint” includes the intentional and unreasonable confinement of an individual in a locked room, involuntary separation of an individual from his or her living area, use on an individual of physical restraining devices, or the provision of unnecessary or excessive medication to an individual, but does not include the use of these methods or devices in entities regulated by the department if the methods or devices are employed in conformance with state and federal standards governing confinement and restraint.</p>	

<sup>a</sup> “Neglect” does not include a decision that is made to not seek medical care for an individual, if that decision is consistent with the individual's previously executed declaration or do-not-resuscitate order, a power of attorney for health care, or as otherwise authorized by law.