

Tools and Resources

CHECKLIST: RED FLAGS THAT MIGHT INDICATE ABUSE IS OCCURRING

There are a number of behavioural indicators that may suggest a person is being abused. This checklist can be used as part of a review process when you are concerned about the behaviour of an older tenant. This checklist has been adapted from a resource available on the NSW Elder Abuse Helpline who utilised a resource developed by Brandl (2004) to inform their resource development .

Note: The presence of one or more indicators of abuse does not necessarily mean abuse has occurred. Indicators of abuse are not always obvious and can vary.

	YES	NO
1. Have injuries that don't match explanations given		
2. Have repeated injuries or bruises and call them "accidental injuries"		
3. Appear withdrawn, sullen or non-communicative		
4. Express or hint at being afraid		
5. Consider or attempt suicide, abuse drugs and/or alcohol and exhibit signs of depression		
6. Present as "difficult", not wishing to answer questions		
7. Have vague, chronic, non-specific complaints		
8. Frequently missed appointments with professionals		
9. Delay or not seek medical help		
10. Exhibit evidence of stress or trauma such as chronic pain or illness		
11. Be unsure or worried about their money, develop rent arrears, lack necessary items in the house or suddenly be unable to buy food or other items		
12. Complain about their situation or appear unhappy		
13. Talk about family arguments or dysfunction or not see family		
14. Withdraw from social networks or decline to attend social function		