**Stop Elder Abuse**

Keep It On Your Radar Screen

**R - Recognize the Signs of Elder Abuse** - Does the elderly person show evidence of physical abuse, fear, anxiety, a misuse or lack of medications, food, liquids, heat or medical care?

**A - Ask Questions in Private** - Talk with the elderly person alone and in private. An elderly person may be ashamed or too fearful to disclose information in front of family or caregivers.

**D - Document Your Findings** - Write a report and take photographs of any injuries or living conditions that may indicate abuse or neglect.

**A - Assure Access to Safety** - If the elderly person is in danger where they live, take immediate action. *If the concern is less urgent, provide referral information. (See back.)*

**R - Review Your Findings and Return** - Follow-up with visits to make sure the situation hasn’t worsened.

*In an emergency/crisis, attempt to convince the person of the need to be seen at a hospital. Alert the first responder and hospital of the conditions and basis for concern. Under limited circumstances, you may take someone into custody against their will. Refer to:*

- **NH RSA 135-C:27 Involuntary Emergency Admission**, or
- **NH RSA 172-B:3 Protective Custody.**
NH Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services - For information on how to report elder abuse/neglect.
1-800-949-0470

NH Department of Justice - Consumer Protection and Antitrust Bureau - Protects consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices in New Hampshire.
1-888-468-4454

NH Legal Assistance/Senior Advice Line - Provides direct representation, brief services, advice, and referrals to seniors experiencing consumer-related problems.
1-888-353-9944

ServiceLink - Provides free and confidential information, referrals and assistance to older adults, persons with disabilities, and their families.
1-866-634-9412

Sponsored by the
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NH Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Community Based Care Services
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