SPOTTING THE SIGNS OF ELDER ABUSE

Abuse can happen to any older person, by a loved one, a hired caregiver, or a stranger. Abuse can happen at home, at a relative’s home, or in an eldercare facility.

There are many types of abuse:
- physical
- emotional
- neglect
- sexual
- financial
- abandonment

Watch for these signs of abuse:

- Seems depressed, confused, or withdrawn
Isolated from friends and family

Has unexplained bruises, burns, or scars

Appears dirty, underfed, dehydrated, over- or undermedicated, or not receiving needed care for medical problems

Has bed sores or other preventable conditions

Recent changes in banking or spending patterns

Talk with the older adult and then contact the local Adult Protective Services, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, or the police.

Visit https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/topics/elder-abuse to learn more about elder abuse and how to get help.