

Elder Neglect



www.eapc.ca



In Partnership With:



Elder Abuse
Prevention
Ontario

Prévention de la
maltraitance envers
les aînés Ontario

The Seniors Safety Line is a 24/7,
confidential and free resource:

**If you would like to talk, we are
here to listen - day or night.**

Call us

1-866-299-1011

Neglect is not meeting the basic needs of the older person:

- 1. Active (intentional) neglect:** the deliberate withholding of care or the necessities of life to an older adult for whom they are caring.
- 2. Passive (unintentional) neglect:** the failure to provide proper care to an older adult due to lack of knowledge, experience /ability or unaware of how to access local

Neglect Can Be:

- Withholding care or denying access to necessary services (home care, nursing) or medical attention
- Leaving a person in an unsafe place
- Improper use of medication – over/under medicating
- Not providing food or liquids, proper clothing or hygiene
- Failure to assist with activities of daily living
- Abandonment
- Denial of a senior's basic rights

Guiding Principals:

The Guiding Principles included will assist in providing response and intervention, to assist older adults who are at-risk or experiencing elder abuse.

1. Talk to the older adult. Ask questions to learn more about his or her experience. Help the person identify resources that could be helpful. Note their mental capacity for decision-making and their understanding of the consequences of their decisions – each decision is assessed independently.
2. Respect personal values, priorities, goals and lifestyle choices of the older adult. Identify support networks and solutions that suit the older adult's individuality.
3. Recognize the right to make decisions. Mentally capable older adults have the right to make decisions, even if those choices are considered risky or unwise by others (including you). Understand that often before a person will seek or agree to accept help, they need to be able to trust you and know that you will follow through with the help you offer to give.
4. Seek consent or permission. In most situations, you should get consent from an older adult before taking action.
5. Respect confidentiality and privacy rights. Get consent before sharing another person's private information, including confidential personal or health information.