

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

## Reporting Elder Abuse



**Department:** Operations

SOP#113

**Applicable to:** All Staff

**Effective Date:** 1 July 2020

2 Pages

**Authority:** Chief Of Operations

**Applicable CAAS Standard:**

**Revised Effective Date:**

### Purpose:

The purpose of this Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) is to outline the position of Brighton Volunteer Ambulance (BVA) regarding the reporting of suspected Elder Abuse.

### Scope:

The scope of this document applies to agency personnel, while acting in an official capacity, must report suspected cases of adult abuse when presented with a reasonable cause to suspect adult abuse.

### Guideline:

#### Abstract Definitions:

**1. Physical Abuse**

Non-accidental use of force that results in bodily injury, pain, or impairment. This includes, but is not limited to, being slapped, burned, cut, bruised or improperly physically restrained.

**2. Sexual Abuse**

Non-consensual sexual contact of any kind. This includes, but is not limited to, forcing sexual contact with self or forcing sexual contact with a third person.

**3. Emotional Abuse**

Willful infliction of mental or emotional anguish by threat, humiliation, intimidation, or other abusive conduct. This includes, but is not limited to, isolating or frightening an adult.

**4. Financial Exploitation**

Improper use of an adult's funds, property, or resources by another individual. This includes, but is not limited to, fraud, embezzlement, forgery, falsifying records, coerced property transfers, or denial of access to assets.

**5. Active Neglect**

The willful failure by a caregiver to fulfill care-taking functions and responsibilities. This includes, but is not limited to, abandonment, deprivation of food, water, heat, cleanliness, eyeglasses, dentures, or health-related services.

**6. Passive Neglect**

The non-willful failure to fulfill care-taking responsibilities because of inadequate caregiver knowledge, infirmity, or disputing the value of prescribed services.

**7. Self-Neglect**

The inability, due to physical and/or mental impairments, to perform tasks essential to caring for oneself.

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This document supersedes any documents on the topic dated prior to the effective date noted above.

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### Steps to follow upon suspicion of abuse or maltreatment:

1. As soon as possible, the provider who witnessed the suspected abuse must complete a special report in emsCharts. In this report, the provider should provide a detailed report of the circumstances of the suspected adult abuse.
2. The Deputy Chief, or his / her designee, will then forward a referral to the Monroe County Social Services Office of Adult Protective Services.

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