

What is mistreatment?

A single or repeated act, or a lack of appropriate action, that occurs in a relationship where there is an expectation of trust, and that intentionally or unintentionally causes harm or distress to a person.

—art. 2. of the Act to Combat Maltreatment of Seniors and Other Persons of Full Age in Vulnerable Situations

Types of mistreatment

- Physical mistreatment
- Psychological mistreatment
- Material or financial mistreatment
 - Sexual mistreatment
- Institutional mistreatment
 - Violation of rights
 - Ageism

What are some of the signs of mistreatment in an elder?

- Anxiety, isolation, depression, low self-esteem, change in behavior, withdrawal;
- Injuries that are not explainable, guilt, shame;
- No access to finances or money necessary to meet basic needs.

You think an elder is going through mistreatment?

How to help?

- Offer your support, listen to him/her and build a trusting environment;
- Let the elder know that what he is living is not acceptable and he can reach out for help;
 - Offer your help if he/she needs it;
 - You can contact your Health Center (social worker, homecare team, etc.) be supported in the situation.

