

## HERITAGE NURSING AGENCY

### 7 TYPES OF ABUSE

- Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is defined as the use of physical force that may result in bodily injury, physical pain, or impairment. Physical abuse may include but is not limited to such acts of violence as striking (with or without an object), hitting, beating, pushing, shoving, shaking, slapping, kicking, pinching, and burning. In addition, inappropriate use of drugs and physical restraints, force-feeding, and physical punishment of any kind also are examples of physical abuse.

- Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse is defined as non-consensual sexual contact of any kind with an elderly person. Sexual contact with any person incapable of giving consent is also considered sexual abuse. It includes, but is not limited to, unwanted touching, all types of sexual assault or battery, such as rape, sodomy, coerced nudity, and sexually explicit photographing.

- Emotional or Psychological Abuse

Emotional or psychological abuse is defined as the infliction of anguish, pain, or distress through verbal or nonverbal acts. Emotional/psychological abuse includes but is not limited to verbal assaults, insults, threats, intimidation, humiliation, and harassment.

In addition, treating an older person like an infant; isolating an elderly person from his/her family, friends, or regular activities; giving an older person the “silent treatment;” and enforced social isolation are examples of emotional/psychological abuse.

- Financial or Material Exploitation

Financial or material exploitation is defined as the illegal or improper use of an elder’s funds, property, or assets. Examples include, but are not limited to, cashing an elderly person’s checks without authorization or permission; forging an older person’s signature; misusing or stealing an older person’s money or possessions; coercing or deceiving an older person into signing any document (e.g., contracts or will); and the improper use of conservatorship, guardianship, or power of attorney.

- Neglect

Neglect is defined as the refusal or failure to fulfill any part of a person’s obligations or duties to an elder. Neglect may also include failure of a person who has fiduciary responsibilities to provide care for an elder (e.g., pay for necessary home care services) or the failure on the part of an in-home service provider to provide necessary care.

Neglect typically means the refusal or failure to provide an elderly person with such life necessities as food, water, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene, medicine, comfort, personal safety, and other essentials included in an implied or agreed-upon responsibility to an elder.

- Abandonment

Abandonment is defined as the desertion of an elderly person by an individual who has assumed responsibility for providing care for an elder, or by a person with physical custody of an elder.

- Self-Neglect

Self-neglect is characterized as the behavior of an elderly person that threatens his/her own health or safety. Self-neglect generally manifests itself in an older person as a refusal or failure to provide himself/herself with adequate food, water, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene, medication (when indicated), and safety precautions.

The definition of self-neglect excludes a situation in which a mentally competent older person, who understands the consequences of his/her decisions, makes a conscious and voluntary decision to engage in acts that threaten his/her health or safety as a matter of personal choice.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have reviewed the topics above with \_\_\_\_\_,  
and acknowledge my responsibility to do my part in maintaining the standards outlined above.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HERITAGE NURSING AGENCY

## Confidentiality/HIPAA

I, \_\_\_\_\_ understand my legal responsibility regarding confidentiality. I understand and acknowledge the importance and seriousness of keeping patient information witnessed/observed/discussed confidential. I will respect the privacy of the residents/employees/visitors and guests by not discussing subjects that refer to medical, personal and financial etc.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# HERITAGE NURSING AGENCY

## Residents' Rights Contract

In order for us to be the Provider of Choice, we have an obligation to respect the rights of our residents. Our resident's rights statement is a key aspect of our resident care policy. It assures every resident that we will do everything we can to guarantee the fundamental rights and individual sense of dignity to which every human being is entitled. Every resident has the right to every consideration of his/her privacy and individuality as it relates to his/her social, religious and psychological well-being.

I \_\_\_\_\_, am committed to maintaining and promoting Resident Rights in my job. I have been provided a copy of our residents' rights and have been given the opportunity to discuss them and ask questions. If I witness any individual violating the rights of any residents, I will communicate this to the appropriate person for action.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_