# What happens next?

The social worker or clinical services manager takes immediate steps to ensure the safety of the adult at risk and will keep you informed.

Along with our partner agencies (The Local Authorities Safeguarding Teams and the Police), allegations will always be investigated and appropriate safeguarding action taken.

## What not to do:

- Do not promise to keep abuse a secret.
- Do not alert the abuser. This might make matters worse and make it difficult for the person at risk to be helped.
- Do not delay.

### Remember:

- DO NOT tolerate abuse
- DO NOT ignore abuse
- DO report abuse

In dealing with the abuse of vulnerable people there can be no secrets.







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 Main Reception:
 01625 610364

 Sunflower Centre:
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 IPU:
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# Safeguarding Adults

**Protecting those least able** 



# Safeguarding adults

Protecting adults who are vulnerable or at risk from abuse, harm or exploitation is a key priority of the Hospice. You can help us to make sure that people get the help they need to stay safe and as independant as possible.

## What is abuse?

Abuse is a behaviour towards a person that deliberately or unintentionally causes harm. It is a disregard of a person's human rights and in the worse cases can endanger life.

#### It can be:

- Physical
- Sexual
- Financial
- Psychological
- Institutional
- Neglectful
- Discriminatory
- Modern slavery
- Domestic violence

## Which adults are at risk?

People aged 18+ who need care services and are or may be dependent upon care.

# Signs of abuse:

- Unexplained injury
- · Signs of fear or distress
- Withdrawal or isolation
- Self-neglect
- Basic physical/emotional needs not being properly met by others
- Not able to pay bills even though money should be available

# Where might abuse happen?

Abuse can happen anywhere:

- Own homes
- Public places
- Day centres
- Care homes
- Hospitals
- GP surgeries
- Hospices

## Who might abuse?

- Professionals
- Volunteers
- Family members
- Carers
- Partners
- Friends
- Neighbours
- ¤ A forced marriage is also a form of abuse.
- Radicalisers who promote violence could also be seen as abusers.

If you are worried about the care your relative or friend is receiving in the Hospice, please discuss your concerns with a senior nurse, doctor or social worker. This will always be taken seriously.

If you suspect a neighbour, friend or family member is an 'adult at risk' in whatever environment, you can also discuss these concerns with any staff member who will alert the social worker.

## How to report abuse

If the person is in immediate danger call 999 straight away before contacting social services:

The Gateway Team: 03001 235 010

Out of hours: 01625 505 666

Sandra Jones - East Cheshire Hospice
 Safeguarding Lead