

Abuse event—abuse and neglect type, code N

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Abuse event—abuse and neglect type, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Abuse and neglect type
METEOR identifier:	784343
Registration status:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Qualified 17/01/2024
Definition:	The type of actions or inactions which have resulted in, or may result in, significant harm or injury to another person which are associated with an abuse event, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Abuse event—abuse and neglect type
Value Domain:	Abuse or neglect type code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Physical abuse
	2	Sexual abuse
	3	Emotional/psychological abuse
	4	Neglect
	5	Financial abuse
	8	Other
Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:**CODE 1 Physical abuse**

Choose this code for any deliberate act resulting in physical pain or injury, including physical coercion and physical or chemical restraint.

Examples include hitting, slapping, pushing and rough handling. It also includes medication-related abuse such as over-medicating or inappropriately administering medication.

CODE 2 Sexual abuse

Choose this code for any behaviour of a sexual nature that makes someone feel uncomfortable, frightened, intimidated or threatened. It is sexual behaviour that someone has not agreed to, and/or when another person uses physical or emotional force against them.

Includes where a person is coerced into unwanted sexual activity or is unable to give consent due to intoxication, being unconscious or asleep or not having the cognitive capacity to consent.

CODE 3 Emotional/psychological abuse

Choose this code for the infliction of mental stress through actions and threats that cause feelings of powerlessness; isolation; fears of violence; fear of or actual deprivation; or feelings of shame.

Includes coercive control, threats of physical violence, threats of withholding affection, overriding or hijacking the decision making of the person.

Includes abuse of a spiritual nature such as denial of access to regular spiritual practices or networks and/or use of spiritual or religious beliefs and practices to control and dominate a person, damage their spiritual experience or isolate them.

Includes abuse of a social nature such as forcing a person to, or preventing them from having contact with friends, family, services providers or other people, or accessing social activities of choice.

CODE 4 Neglect

Choose this code for the failure of a caregiver or responsible person to provide the necessities of life. Neglect may be intentional or unintentional. Includes self-neglect.

Includes physical and psychological necessities such as nutrition, adequate hygiene, accommodation, and safety. Includes withholding medication.

CODE 5 Financial abuse

Choose this code for the improper or illegal use of a person's money, property, or other assets.

Includes mismanagement of a person's money, property or resources. Also includes where the person has been coerced into changing their will or signing over their rights or possessions. Includes pressuring a person to give away money without intention to repay it.

CODE 8 Other

Choose this code for any type of abuse not covered above.

CODE 9 Not stated/inadequately described

Choose this code where the information is not stated or otherwise inadequately described.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Steward: [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)

Data element attributes

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set [National elder abuse helpline DSS](#)

Specifications: [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Qualified 17/01/2024

DSS specific information:

In the National elder abuse helpline DSS this data element should be recorded for each helpline contact and each case.

Multiple value may be selected for each unique older person of concern.

A service provider contact may refer to multiple cases.