



courtesy of **Adult Protective Services**



What is physical or sexual abuse?

Physical abuse may include slapping, hitting, beating, bruising or causing someone physical pain, injury or suffering.

Sexual abuse includes physical force, threats, or coercion to facilitate non-consensual touching, fondling, intercourse or other sexual activities. This is particularly true with vulnerable adults who are unable to give consent or comprehend the nature of these actions.

What are the signs of physical or sexual abuse?

- ✓ Unexplained or apparent bruising
- ✓ Strangulation
- ✓ Fractures
- ✓ Burns
- ✓ Bed sores
- ✓ Over or under medicating the victim
- ✓ Hiding injuries by not wearing appropriate clothing (such as long sleeves when hot)
- ✓ Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)
- ✓ Bruises on breast, inner thighs, or genitals
- ✓ Pregnancy
- ✓ Controlling access to or the movements of an individual

What are some risk factors?*

- ✓ Family crisis or family members are suffering from stress
- ✓ Domestic issues causing violence or conflict in the home
- ✓ Depression, unusual fears or sudden loss of self-confidence
- ✓ Noticeable withdrawal and lack of socialization
- ✓ Loneliness and isolation

What if I'm not sure?

Do you just have a "feeling" about a situation but can't verify the details? APS workers are trained to handle just this type of situation. Based on your report, the agency will assess the situation and determine how best to respond. Your local APS agency can determine the best course of action.



CONTACT APS

Reach out to Adult Protective Services if you notice signs of physical or sexual abuse:



Utah Department of
Health & Human Services
Aging & Adult Services

- ✓ Call 1-800-371-7897
- ✓ Report online 24/7 at daas.utah.gov