MODEL FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF OLDER ADULT MISTREATMENT SITUATIONS

3rd Edition—2019

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Based on an exhaustive literature review and consultations with stakeholders in the Quebec health and social service network, this conceptual model aims to structure the management of situations of older adult mistreatment. It illustrates the key care events necessary to manage mistreatment situations, as well as the fields of expertise required to provide care and services that adequately respond to the needs of the mistreated person. In this sense, it reaffirms the importance of developing strong collaborations with different partners. This model also sheds light on the non-linearity of the response. In fact, after the identification, the other care events can be carried out in any order or simultaneously, depending on the situation. Finally, the model highlights the right to consent of the older person throughout the process (except in emergency situations or other exceptions specified by the L-6.3 - Act to combat maltreatment of seniors and other persons of full age in vulnerable situations).

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OLDER ADULT MISTREATMENT SITUATIONS Fields of expertise **Key care events** Identification Older adult's consent (or their egal representative) Reporting **Investigation** Medical/ Psycho-**Functional** social Assessment of the **Financial** Legal Intervention mistreated & Follow-up person's needs and capacities

Key care events

Identification of the mistreatment situation Reporting of the mistreatment situation

Recognizing, documenting and analyzing risk factors, signs and indicators of mistreatment using clinical judgment and/or detection tools.

Transmitting verbal or in writing information regarding the (suspected or substantiated) mistreatment situation to the designated individuals (e.g., assigned practitioner, head of unit, service quality and complaints commissioner, etc.). Respecting the legal framework surrounding mandatory reporting, if applicable. Following the institutional procedures.

Investigation

Questioning the people involved in the situation as well as the witnesses. Collecting documents from different sources. Analyzing the information to determine whether the allegations can be substantiated or not. Documenting the mistreatment situation thoroughly.

Assessment of the older person's needs and capacities

Assessing the mistreated person's medical, functional and psychosocial capacities and needs. Evaluating their capacity to manage their property and/or their person as well as their need for legal representation or protection. Analyzing the results in interdisciplinary and/or intersectoral

Interventions and follow-up

Planning and implementing all interventions needed to reduce the risks, manage and, if possible, solve the mistreatment situation. Considering the medical, functional, psychosocial, financial and legal aspects of the situation when developing the intervention and follow-up plan. Ensuring that follow-ups are done as planned.

Fields of expertise

Medical/ **Functional**

Knowledge and skills related to physical and mental health, and disabilities.

- Documenting signs and indicators
- Assessment of needs and impact/ Diagnosis
- ✓ Assessment of incapacity and need for protection
- Development and implementation of the intervention and follow-up plan

Psychosocial

Examples of resources: Nurse; Doctor; Occupational therapist.

Knowledge and skills related to interpersonal dynamics, coping processes and risk management.

- Documenting signs and indicators
- Assessment of needs and impact
- ✓ Consultation and coordination
- Development and implementation of the intervention and follow-up plan

Financial

Legal

Examples of resources: Social worker; Psychologist; Community organizer. Knowledge and skills related to administrative procedures and laws regarding financial and wealth management.

- Documentation of signs and indicators
- Assessment of needs and impact
- Development and implementation of the intervention and follow-up plan

Examples of resources: Autorité des marchés financiers; Financial adviser; Accountant.

Knowledge and skills related to administrative procedures and laws regarding the protection of persons in situations of vulnerability (and their property), and the management of potentially criminal situations.

- Documenting signs and indicators
- ✓ Assessment of needs and impact
- Consultation and legal representation
- Law enforcement and implementation of legal, civil and/or criminal procedures

Examples of resources: Lawyer; Police; Curateur public du Québec; Notary.