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## Elder Abuse Bytes Fall 2013

**NCEA**  
National Center on Elder Abuse

### [New from the National Center on Elder Abuse!](#)

#### Recent NCEA Webinars:

1) **When the Going Gets Tough: Coping for Caregivers** (June, 2013)

National Center on Elder Abuse and the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving have partnered to create and distribute caregiver-friendly resources that help minimize the risk of abuse and neglect in caregiving situations. Find materials online at [www.rosalynncarter.org/elder\\_abuse/](http://www.rosalynncarter.org/elder_abuse/)

[When the Going Gets Tough: Coping for Caregivers](#) webinar recording on Screencast. Download [Slides](#) (PDF)

2) **Elder Abuse and AAAs Best Practices and More** (May, 2013)

Area Agencies on Aging play a critical role in elder abuse prevention, detection and intervention. Hear the best practices from two AAAs and discover ways in which AAAs can be involved in elder

justice efforts. [N4A, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging](#), hosted this webinar, featuring Mary Twomey, Mary Lynn Kasunic, and Jane Jones.

[Elder Abuse and AAAs Best Practices and More](#) webinar recording on [AGEcomm](#) Download [Slides \(PDF\)](#)

**Recent NCEA Podcasts:** Georgia Anetzberger, PhD, ACSW, LISW and Carol Dayton, MSW, ACSW, LISW and moderator Mary S. Twomey, MSW discuss Elder Abuse Risk Factors. Research on risk factors provides a magnifying glass for skillfully detecting people and situations at high risk for abuse. They aid in early detection and intervention to protect against the occurrence and recurrence of elder abuse. This two-part series was created by NCEA in partnership with National Adult Protective Services Association and National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (August, 2013).

1) **Elder Abuse Risk Factors: Part One** (22 min) ([YouTube video](#)) When we talk about “risk factors of elder abuse,” what do we mean? Why is it important to understand risk factors? What are the key research findings on risk factors, and which are most predictive of abuse?

2) **Elder Abuse Risk Factors: Part Two** (16 min) ([YouTube video](#)) What key points should workers in the field keep in mind about elder abuse risk factors and protective factors? Looking ahead, which areas related to risk factors most urgently need to be studied next? What are some policy implications of what we know about elder abuse risk factors?

Available for download, along with key points handouts, from iTunes

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/itunes-u/elder-abuse-risk-factors-parts/id687346831?mt=10>

**NCEA Elder Abuse Research Articles Compilation:** Ever have a question about elder abuse and don't know where to start looking for answers? The NCEA Elder Abuse Article Compilation could be your first stop. NCEA staff combed several on-line research databases looking for articles on elder abuse topics published in peer-reviewed journals. The resulting searchable bibliography covers topics from abandonment to undue influence for the period August 2011-July 2012. To access the list, go to [http://www.centeronelderabuse.org/NCEA\\_at\\_UCI.asp](http://www.centeronelderabuse.org/NCEA_at_UCI.asp) and scroll down to Bibliography.

### **And, great stuff from other sources:**

**Crime Data:** The Bureau of Justice Statistics has published an application programming interface (API) that provides access to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) dataset in open, machine-readable formats. The NCVS API is a dynamic feed that allows developers and researchers to retrieve up-to-date information efficiently, in the manner that best suits their needs. Check it out at <http://www.bjs.gov/developer/ncvs/>.

**Healthcare:** American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommend screening for elder abuse of patients older than 60 years to help identify victims of abuse and provide them with appropriate medical and psychosocial care and referrals. Screening for elder abuse is a crucial first step for obstetrician–gynecologists. Older women are more vulnerable, less inclined to discuss abuse without direct questioning, more likely to accept or minimize the degree of their situations,

and to remain silent as abuse continues.

[http://www.acog.org/Resources\\_And\\_Publications/Committee\\_Opinions/Committee\\_on\\_Health\\_Care\\_for\\_Underserved\\_Women/Elder\\_Abuse\\_and\\_Womens\\_Health](http://www.acog.org/Resources_And_Publications/Committee_Opinions/Committee_on_Health_Care_for_Underserved_Women/Elder_Abuse_and_Womens_Health)

**Assisted Living:** Frontline and ProPublica collaborated together to create an assisted living documentary titled “Life and Death in Assisted Living” found here: <http://www.propublica.org/series/life-and-death-in-assisted-living>. The documentary highlights how loose regulations are endangering the growing number of assisted living residents in the United States, focusing on Emeritus Senior Living facilities. The program aired on PBS Tuesday, July 30, 2013 and is accompanied by a series of reports published by ProPublica.

**Long-term Care:** Residents' Rights Month is an annual event designated by the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care, and is celebrated in October to honor residents living in all long-term care facilities. The theme for 2013 is, “Speak Out Against Elder Abuse!” with the goal of encouraging residents and others in these facilities to be educated about and speak out against elder abuse. View resources at: <http://www.theconsumervoice.org/resident/nursinghome/residents-rights#Residents-Rights-Month>

**Long-term Care:** Anti-psychotics increase likelihood of death in older institutionalized patients. Researchers found that residents who used atypical antipsychotics had an unadjusted mortality rate of 18.42 percent compared with 24.06 percent for users of typical antipsychotics. On average, there was a 41 percent higher risk of death within 180 days of exposure to typical agents compared to treatment with atypical agents. <http://www.ahrq.gov/news/newsletters/research-activities/13may/0513RA20.html>

**Research:** The National Adult Protective Services Resource Center, in conjunction with the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, has released a new Research to Practice (R2P) Brief, titled [Adult Protective Services and Animal Welfare: Should Animal Abuse and Neglect Be Assessed During Adult Protective Services Screening?](#) The R2P series links cutting-edge research with everyday practice in adult protective services. This brief and others is available on our website on the [Research to Practice Page](#).

**Law Enforcement:** Georgia Chiefs of Police developed a White Paper on abuse of at-risk adults: [http://www.gachiefs.com/pdfs/White\\_Papers\\_Committee\\_Reports/AtRiskAdultAbuseWhitePaper.pdf](http://www.gachiefs.com/pdfs/White_Papers_Committee_Reports/AtRiskAdultAbuseWhitePaper.pdf). Addressing topics such as the scope of the problem, legislation, and advocacy, the ad hoc committee’s conclusion recommends the creation of agency policy, a multi-disciplinary approach, and focusing on training. In addition, below is the link to the Georgia’s one-hour, live broadcast of Elder Abuse: Hiding in Plain Sight. <http://www.gpb.org/elder-abuse>. This is intended to provide the public with an overview of the increasing problem of abuse, neglect and exploitation facing older adults and adults with disabilities.

**Congressional Hearing:** The Senate Special Committee on Aging heard the Jamaican Phone Scam Audio and Witness Video as evidence on March 13, 2013. These lottery scams originating in Jamaica have become big business, with an estimated 30,000 calls a day to the United States. Jamaican authorities have estimated that it is a \$300 million industry run by gangs and organized crime units. Scammers cultivate seemingly deep relationships with the often widowed or solitary seniors while posing as friends, confidants and even potential romantic interests, all the while

ostracizing victims from their real families and stealing their money.

[http://www.aging.senate.gov/hearing\\_detail.cfm?id=339898&](http://www.aging.senate.gov/hearing_detail.cfm?id=339898&)

**Fraud and Scams:** The National Crime Prevention Council is working to design, implement, promote, and evaluate a strategic approach to prevent telemarketing fraud and related crimes against seniors by promoting awareness and action on preventive strategies by senior consumers, law enforcement, and other community resources. Through conducting research on the attitudes and awareness of seniors about telemarketing fraud, devising media campaigns, promoting training, and providing prevention resources that are easily accessible, the National Crime Prevention Council hopes to combat these scams against seniors. <http://www.ncpc.org/topics/crime-against-seniors>

**New Consumer Fact Sheets Available:** The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care is pleased to announce the release of numerous educational fact sheets about long-term services and support options, and how to advocate for quality care. These fact sheets, based on our Piecing Together Quality Care: A Consumer's Guide to Choices and Advocacy, serve as bite-sized pieces of information on various subject areas related to long-term services and supports. Examples of some of the topics the fact sheets address include how to find a provider, how to solve a problem with a provider, and tips for getting quality care from a provider. The fact sheets are designed for consumers (or their advocates) who are currently receiving or who may in the future receive long-term services and supports. The goal of the fact sheets is to empower consumers – through education – to effectively advocate on their own behalf. You can access the educational fact sheets [here](#).

**Legislation:** A new House bill aims to improve the nursing home survey process, enhance whistleblower protections for surveyors and establish an advisory committee for CMS that would include skilled nursing facility administrators, directors of nursing and other stakeholders. Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) introduced the Nursing Home Patient Protection and Standards Act of 2013 on Tuesday, July 30, 2013.

<http://www.mcknights.com/new-bill-improves-on-nursing-home-surveys-and-surveyor-training/article/305448/>

**Video:** [Hoarding Is Everybody's Business](#), " is an awareness video produced by the Hoarding Connection of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, with funding from the Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Board of Cuyahoga County and support from the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging. The Cuyahoga County Hoarding Connection's mission is to educate the community about the need for a coordinated effort of personnel from local government, mental health and social service agencies to effectively help individuals who hoard and those working with individuals who hoard.

**Resource for busy professionals:** The Center of Excellence on Elder Abuse and Neglect has partnered with the nonprofit Institute on Aging to develop a mobile app to help California law enforcement in their work responding to abuse of elders and dependent adults. Named "368+ Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Guide for CA Law Enforcement" in reference to CA Penal Code 368, it is now available [for free](#) for Droid devices, iPhones, iPads, and can be viewed on your mobile web browser. While designed for law enforcement, APS workers, ombudsmen and others have also found it helpful. [www.centeronelderabuse.org/368ElderAbuseCA.asp](http://www.centeronelderabuse.org/368ElderAbuseCA.asp).



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To submit an item for Elder Abuse Bytes, please write to [ncea@uci.edu](mailto:ncea@uci.edu).

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