



# Who Can I Tell?



Prevention  
of Elder Abuse  
Committee  
OF YORK REGION

If you recognize any of these types of abuse happening, remember-

**No one** deserves to be abused or mistreated

### Consider telling

- **someone you trust**
- **someone who will listen and support you**

This could be your family doctor, a trusted friend or an agency caregiver



#### In emergency

911

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#### Police

1 866 876 5423

Seniors Liaison, ext. 6697

To report or discuss possible abuse

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#### Senior Crime Stoppers

1 800 222 8477

For anonymous reporting of crimes

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#### 310 COPE

310 2673

For crisis intervention and support

For all ages; open 24hrs.

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#### Community Care Access Centre

1 888 470 2222

Assessment for in-home health services  
Information & referral

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#### Seniors Safety Line

211

For information or referral about suspected abuse

## Identifying & Preventing Elder Abuse

[www.elderabuse-yorkregion.ca](http://www.elderabuse-yorkregion.ca)





## What is Elder Abuse?

Elder abuse is any action or inaction which causes harm to an older person.

***Elder abuse can happen to anyone***, regardless of culture, gender, race or financial status.

***The person causing the abuse*** could be a family member, friend, neighbour, paid caregiver, professional financial or legal adviser, or healthcare provider.

## Types of Abuse

Abuse and neglect of older adults can take many forms, including physical, emotional or financial abuse or neglect.

***Physical Abuse*** is any action which causes physical discomfort, pain or injury, such as:

- Hitting, biting, shaking, rough handling, forcible restraint
- Any unwanted touching or non-consensual sexual activity

***Emotional Abuse*** is any action or words causing feelings of distress, fear, sense of worthlessness or loss of dignity, such as:

- Insults, threats, humiliation, bullying
- Not being allowed to make decisions
- Preventing contact with family and friends

***Financial Abuse*** is the theft or misuse of money, property or possessions, such as:

- Not being allowed to make your own financial decisions
- Being pressured to lend money to a friend, relative, or anyone else
- Money taken or cheques cashed without permission
- Wrongful use of a Power of Attorney
- Overcharging or high pressure sales tactics for services

***Neglect*** occurs when a person who has responsibility to provide care or assistance does not do so, such as:

- Not providing proper food, clothing, or a safe place to live
- Not providing aids for daily living (e.g., walker, wheelchair)
- Not providing medical care when required
- Not paying bills

