

Confidentiality

Any Approved Provider **MUST** take reasonable measures to protect the identity of any staff member who makes a report and protect them from victimisation amongst other things.

We all have a responsibility to report abuse

 **Be Vigilant!**

 **Report Abuse!!**

 **Do Not Sit Back and Accept Abuse!!!**

 **Make it YOUR business to protect our elders!!!!**



Pocket Guide to Elder Abuse in Residential Aged Care

What is Elder Abuse?

“A single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an elder”

Definition – World Health Organisation

What areas does Mandatory Reporting cover?

- 1) Unlawful Sexual Contact with a resident of an aged care home;
- 2) Unreasonable use of force on a resident of an aged care home;

What is the time frame for making a report?

Approved Providers of a Commonwealth Funded Aged Care Service **MUST** report any allegation or suspicion of a reportable incident within 24 hours of being advised or suspecting that a reportable assault may have occurred. **NB:** *An Approved Provider must not wait until an allegation has been substantiated before reporting the matter.*

To whom must an Approved Provider report?

- 1) To the Secretary of the Department of Health & Ageing (DOHA – Complaints Investigation Scheme (CIS));
- 2) A Police Officer in your State or Territory;

Who may the perpetrators of Unlawful Sexual Contact &/or Unreasonable Use of Force be?

- i. A visitor or relative;
- ii. A staff member;
- iii. Another resident;
- iv. A contractor;

The above is not an exhaustive list of individuals who may commit a reportable incident;