

NEGLECT & ACTS OF OMISSION, INCLUDING SELF-NEGLECT

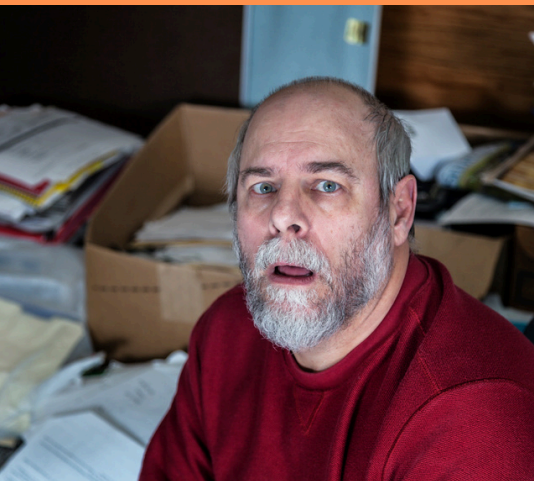
ADULTS



What is neglect?

Neglect is the repeated withholding of adequate care which results in the adult's basic needs not being met. It can be intentional or unintentional and includes acts of omission and self-neglect by the individual themselves.

Types of neglect and acts of omission:



- failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, heating, stimulation and activity, personal or medical care
- providing care in a way that the person dislikes
- failure to administer medication as prescribed
- refusal of access to visitors
- not taking account of individuals' cultural, religious or ethnic needs
- not taking account of educational, social and recreational needs
- ignoring or isolating the person
- preventing the person from making their own decisions
- preventing access to glasses, hearing aids, dentures, etc.
- failure to ensure privacy and dignity

Possible indicators of neglect and acts of omission:



- poor environment – dirty or unhygienic
- poor physical condition and/or personal hygiene
- pressure sores or ulcers
- malnutrition or unexplained weight loss
- untreated injuries and medical problems
- inconsistent or reluctant contact with medical and social care organisations
- accumulation of untaken medication
- uncharacteristic failure to engage in social interaction
- inappropriate or inadequate clothing

Types of self-neglect:

- lack of self-care to an extent that it threatens personal health and safety
- neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings
- inability to avoid self-harm
- failure to seek help or access services to meet health and social care needs
- inability or unwillingness to manage one's personal affairs

Indicators of self-neglect:

- very poor personal hygiene
- unkempt appearance
- lack of essential food, clothing or shelter
- malnutrition and/ or dehydration
- living in squalid or unsanitary conditions
- neglecting household maintenance
- hoarding
- collecting a large number of animals in inappropriate conditions
- non-compliance with health or care services
- inability or unwillingness to take medication or treat illness or injury

(Social Care Institute of Excellence, 2018)



Your Parish Safeguarding Officer is: