PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to assist providers in the process of identifying, treating, and referring suspected victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, providing optimal care to patients and meeting Department of Public Health and JCAHO standards.

SUPPORTIVE DATA:

The public policy of the State of Connecticut is designed to safeguard people 60 years and older from physical, mental and emotional abuse, neglect and abandonment and/or financial abuse and exploitation.

POLICY:

1. Patients 60 years of age and older have the right to be free from neglect; exploitation; and verbal, mental, physical and sexual abuse.

2. The hospital will protect these patients from neglect, exploitation, and abuse that could occur while the patient is receiving care, treatment, and services.

3. The hospital will evaluate all allegations, observations, and suspected cases of neglect, exploitation, and abuse of patients.

4. The hospital will report allegations, observations, and suspected cases of neglect, exploitation, and abuse to appropriate authorities based on its evaluation of the suspected events, or as required by law.

Chapter 319d of the Connecticut General Statues mandates reporting to Protective Services for the Elderly at the State of Connecticut Department of Social Service Toll Free Referral Line (1-888-385-4225). Report any situations in which an elderly person has experienced, or is threatened with abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment; or is in a condition which is the result of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment. This may include, but is not limited to physical abuse, threats of assault, verbal abuse, exploitation (financial or otherwise), emotional abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, abandonment, and violation of an elderly person's rights. Mandated reporters of elder abuse are listed in Appendix A.
5. During routine business hours, report cases of suspected elder abuse, neglect or exploitation, notify the Department of Social Work via Care Coordination x3153. Outside routine business hours, report any non-emergent suspected elder abuse, neglect or exploitation to the State of CT Protective Services for the Elderly (PSE) at 1-888-385-4225. For emergency reporting outside of business hours contact Infoline #211.


7. All information pertaining to elder abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment will be documented in the medical record.

8. The patient will be educated about resources available for support and/or education, as appropriate.

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Andrew Agwunobi, MD, MBA
Chief Executive Officer

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Richard H. Simons, MD
Chief of Medical Staff

Date Issued: 5/12
Revised: 04/17, 3/21
Reviewed: 08/14, 04/18
Mandated Reporters of Elder Abuse

Physicians
Hospital Residents
Hospital Fellows
Registered Nurse
Coroner
Dental Hygienist
Social Worker
Chaplain
Physical Therapist
Chiropractor
Mental Health Professional
Counselors
Medical Examiners

Surgeons
Hospital Interns
Licensed Practical Nurse
Dentist
Psychologist
Police Officer
Pharmacist
Optometrist
Podiatrist
Physician Assistant
Day Care Employees

Appendix B

W-675 - Report Form for Protective Services for the Elderly

(See text for link to pdf)