Supplemental file

Table 1 Operational definition of elder abuses since 65 years and behavioural questions used to elicit peoples experiences of abuse

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|  | One or more incidents since turning 65 years carried out by family member, close friend, care worker, neighbours or strangers |
| **Financial** | 1. Stolen money or any of your possessions/property/land or documents  2. Deliberately prevented you access to your money/possessions/property/land or documents  3. Forced or misled you into giving them money/possessions/property/land or your pension book against your will  4. Forced or misled you to sign over ownership of your home or property or pension book against your will  5. Forced or misled you to change your will (Last Will/Testament) or any other financial documents against your will  6. Signed your name on cheque/pension book or other financial documents without your knowledge or permission  7. Misused the power of attorney you gave them or have been forced, convinced or misled into signing a power of attorney  8. Tried/pressured you (but not succeeded) in doing any of the previous (to steal money, property, change legal documents)  9. Stopped contributing to household expenses such as rent or food where this had been previously agreed |
| **Physical** | 1. Tried to slap or hit you  2. Pushed, grabbed, shoved or slapped you  3. Kicked, bit or hit you with a fist  4. Hit or tried to hit you with an object  5. Burned or scalded you  6. Given you drugs or too much medicine in order to control you or make you sleepy  7. Restrained you in any way e.g. locked you in your room, tied you in a chair  8. Threatened you with a knife, gun or other weapon  9. Injured you with a knife, gun or other weapon |
| **Sexual** | worker1.Talked to you in a sexual way that you did not like  2. Touched you or tried to touch you in a sexual way you did not like/ against your will  3. Forced you or tried to force you to have sexual intercourse against your will |
| **Psychological** | 1. Insulted you, called you names or swore at you  2. Threatened you verbally  3. Undermined or belittled what you do  4. Excluded you or repeatedly ignored you  5. Threatened to harm others that you care about  6. Prevented you from seeing others that you care about or your doctor or nurse  7. Removed or prevented you access to equipment such as hearing or walking aids |
| **Neglect** | Neglect is based on an assessment of a person’s ability to independently perform basic and complex activities of daily living. Neglect was identified if a person:   1. Stated they were unable to perform an activity independently. 2. Had experienced refusal by a carer to supply help more 3. Not receiving the help was perceived by the older person as having a serious impact on them   Complex activities of daily living are list as: Shopping for food clothes, preparing food, housework, taking medication, using public transport or driving  Basic activities of daily living are defined as cutting up and eating own food, moving around the house, going to the toilet, dressing, washing |

Table 2 Coding categories for qualitative question what is ‘meant by the term elder abuse’

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| **Overarching themes** | **Major and minor themes** |  |
| Specific awareness of term elder abuse  (terminology associated with elder abuse or examples of abusive behaviours) | 1. **Psychological abuse** |  |
| 1.1Verbal | 1.1.1abusive language, shouting, scolding |
| 1.2 Bullying | 1.2.1 domineering |
| 1.3 Threaten |  |
| 1.4 Demand | 1.3.1 pressure (excludes financial) |
| 1.5 Deceive |  |
| 1.6 Ignored |  |
| 1.7 Undermined |  |
| 1.8 Taken advantage of |  |
| 1.9 Made to feel a nuisance |  |
| 1.10 Denied contact | 1.10.1 isolated from others |
| 1.11 Mental | 1.11.1 emotional |
| 1.12 Control /Independency | 1.12.1 being listened too, freedom, liberty, privacy/ Forced against their will |
| 1.13 Rights/entitlements |  |
| 1. **Neglect** |  |
| 2.1 Neglect/deprive |  |
| 2.2 Care |  |
| 2.3 Help |  |
| 2.4 Needs |  |
| 2.5 Food/heat |  |
|  |  |
| 1. **Physical abuse** |  |
| 3.1 Physical |  |
| 3.2 Hitting/slap |  |
| 3.4 Beating |  |
| 3.5 Restrained | 3.5.1 Tied up or, keeping confined  Medication (tranquillisers/doped/  pills |
| 3.6 Violence |  |
| 1. **Sexual abuse** |  |
| 1. **Financial abuse** |  |
| 5.1Money stolen/taken |  |
| 5.2 Possessions stolen/ taken |  |
| 5.3 Pressure (Financial only) |  |
| 5.4 Break-ins/burglary |  |
| 5.6 Financial abuse |  |
| 5.7 Forced to change Will/legal documents/Bank accounts |  |
| 5.8 Denied access to money/property |  |
|  |  |
| Non-specific awareness of elder abuse’  (Broad general terms, did not provide examples of behaviours) | 6.1 Abuse /mistreatment | Word abuse repeated with no elaboration) |
| 6.2 Treated badly/cruelly |  |
| 6.3 Lack of respect |  |
| 6.4 Not being good to the person |  |
| 6.5 Rude |  |
| 6.6 Lack of services |  |
| Don’t know (could not articulate a response) | 7.1Never heard of term, can’t say |  |
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