

Scenario Evaluation: "Dolly"

Pause video here and discuss these questions below

- What would you have done?
- Is Dolly a vulnerable adult? How?

A vulnerable adult is anyone over the age of 18, who because of a physical or mental impairment, is unable to meet the person's own needs or to seek help without assistance.

Dolly is a vulnerable adult. She receives supervision from others who provide care. It is unclear if Dolly can report, however Dolly would have to tell someone at the facility where she lives to report the abuse or she would have to wait to talk with her mother when she visits. It appears that Dolly must seek the assistance from others. She may struggle to communicate her needs.

- What risks factors do you see with Dolly?

Functional limitations

Relies on others for care and safety

Facility may not report the allegations

Boundary and trust challenges

Cognitive limitations

Learned compliance

Need for friendship

- Was this abuse? How? What was visible and not visible in Dolly?

Yes, there is visible bruising. At this time, bruising is unexplained. Dolly's behavior also changes when staff enters the room. Notice her facial expressions and her demeanor.

- What type(s) of abuse might be present?

Physical, emotional/mental abuse, neglect

- Who should initiate the report to APS? How fast should you report? Do you call the police?

Anyone can initiate the report to APS. Report should have been made immediately as soon as bruises were noticed. Mother can report, Dolly can report, or anyone who works with Dolly or knows Dolly. Mandated reporters have 24 hours from the time they suspect abuse or notice bruises. Pictures can be taken by staff at the facility and documented. If a crime has been committed or there is a suspicion of a crime, such as physical or sexual assault, the police MUST be called.

Scenario Evaluation: "Joe"

Pause video here and discuss these questions below

- What would you have done?
- Is Joe a vulnerable adult? How?

A vulnerable adult is anyone over the age of 18, who because of a physical or mental impairment, is unable to meet the person's own needs or to seek help without assistance.

Based on this scenario, it is unclear if Joe is an actual vulnerable adult. However the video does indicate that Joe is weak and ill and may not be able to care for himself without assistance.

- What risks factors do you see with Joe?

Isolation/seclusion

New visitor to home

Illness (physical and mental)

Change in behaviors

New purchases not normal for Joe

- Was this abuse? How?

Possible abuse and neglect may be present. Joe's home is neglected, he appears depressed, is no longer as sociable as before, and he makes statements that others are making decisions for him.

- What type(s) of abuse might be present?

Financial exploitation, self neglect

- Who should initiate the report to APS? How fast should you report?

Anyone can call APS. Mandatory reporters must make a report within 24 hours of having knowledge or suspicion of abuse, exploitation, or neglect.

Scenario Evaluation: "Roy"

Pause video here and discuss these questions below

- What would you have done?
- Is Roy a vulnerable adult? How?

A vulnerable adult is anyone over the age of 18, who because of a physical or mental impairment, is unable to meet the person's own needs or to seek help without assistance.

Based on this scenario, Roy may be a vulnerable adult. It is unclear if he can help himself, however the bus driver has noticed that he has lost weight and appears more confused. Roy is receiving assistance from others.

- What risks factors do you see with Roy?

Isolation/seclusion

Home unkempt (newspapers and trash)

Cognitive limitations

Physical limitations

Illness

Changes in behavior

- Was this abuse? How?

Possible self neglect/abuse. Roy may not be able to help himself due to impairments.

- What type(s) of abuse might be present?

Self neglect. Possible neglect as Roy is said to have professional help as well.

- Who should initiate the report to APS? How fast should you report?

Anyone can report to APS. Family, caregivers, the bus driver, neighbors all can report. Mandatory reports must report any allegation of self neglect within 24 hours.