



# Speak Up!



## Your Responsibility as a Mandatory Reporter

**Who is required to report?** Maine law (22 MRSA §3477-3479-A) requires that if any of the following individuals suspects that an adult has been abused, neglected or exploited, and there is reasonable cause to suspect that the adult is incapacitated or dependent, then that individual shall immediately report to the Department.

Certified Nursing Assistant	Clergy	Dentist
Emergency Medical Technician	Licensed Practical Nurse	Medical Intern
Mental Health Professional	Occupational Therapist	Pharmacist
Physical Therapist	Physician (MD and DO)	Physician's Assistant
Podiatrist	Psychologist	Registered Nurse
Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (i.e. DSP, PSS, CRMA)	Speech Therapist	Social Worker

All residents of long-term care facilities are considered to be dependent. If you work in a health care facility and are required to report suspected abuse, neglect, and exploitation to your supervisor, you are still required to report suspected abuse to Adult Protective Services.

### **What are you required to report?**

**Abuse** means the infliction of injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation or cruel punishment that causes or is likely to cause physical harm or pain or mental anguish; sexual abuse or sexual exploitation; or the intentional, knowing or reckless deprivation of essential needs. Abuse includes acts and omissions.(22 MRSA §3472)

**Exploitation** means the illegal or improper use of an incapacitated or dependent adult or that adult's resources for another's profit or advantage.(22 MRSA §3472)

**Neglect** means a threat to an adult's health or welfare by physical or mental injury or impairment, deprivation of essential needs or lack of protection from these.(22 MRSA §3472)

**Where do I report?** Report abuse neglect or exploitation to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Aging and Disability Services, Adult Protective Services at Nationwide 24-hour, toll-free:1-800-624-8404, (24/7) Maine Relay 711