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Adult Abuse and Neglect
Response Flow Chart

SUSPECT ABUSE NEGLECT AND/OR SELF-NEGLECT?

AND

SUSPECT COGNITIVE PHYSICAL, MENTAL IMPAIRMENT?

ABUSE INDICATORS

Physical: (assault, sexual assault, physical restraint, physical coercion) bruises, welts, swelling, lacerations, punctures, fractures, restricted movement, repeated falls, internal injuries, burns, venereal disease, genital infections, vaginal/anal bleeding

Neglect/Self Neglect: malnourished, emaciated, dehydrated, confused, inappropriate clothing, squalor, under/over medicated, absence of required hearing, visual and mobility aids, skin sores, malodorous, no follow through on medical services, abandonment

Psychological: agitation, fearfulness (especially in presence of caregiver), low self-esteem, sleep disturbance, withdrawal, deference to caregiver

Financial: unpaid bills, change in living conditions, no money/food/clothes, absence of aids and services, refusal to spend money without agreement of caregiver, sudden appearance of previously uninvolved relatives, abrupt changes in will/accounts, forged signature, sudden debt accrual

NO

REFER TO SOCIAL WORKER/ LTC CASE MANAGER

TREAT

SUPPORT

FOLLOW THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROTOCOL

YES

ASSESS:

IS THE ADULT ABLE TO SEEK SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE ON THEIR OWN?

Ask questions related to the suspected abuse and neglect and further assess the adult's capability, insight and judgment.

See RE:ACT Quick Assessment Guide.

YES

NO

DETERMINE IF THERE IS A LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OR A POWER OF ATTORNEY OR A COMMITTEE

DESIGNATED RESPONDERS: Social Worker; Mental Health Therapist; Continuing Care Case Manager; Program Manager/Pratice Consultant; Licensing Officer.

REFER TO DESIGNATED RESPONDER

CRIMES ARE REPORTED TO POLICE

Every Employee has a Responsibility to Act in Situations of Abuse, Neglect and Self-Neglect

ADVISE MOST RESPONSIBLE PHYSICIAN OF SITUATION AND ACTIONS TAKEN

DESIGNATED RESPONDER TO REFERENCE RE:ACT MANUAL FOR STAFF

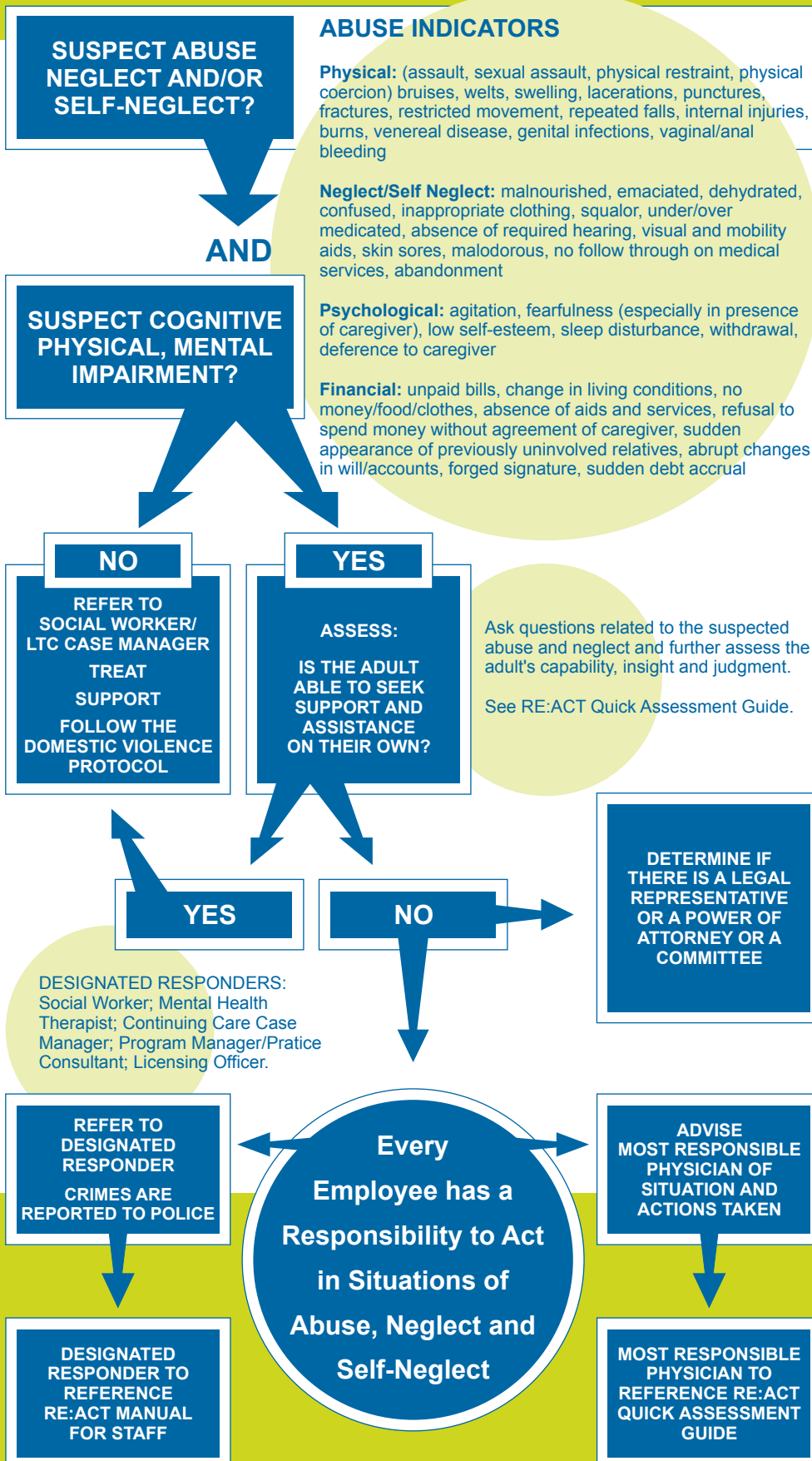MOST RESPONSIBLE PHYSICIAN TO REFERENCE RE:ACT QUICK ASSESSMENT GUIDE

DOCUMENT AT EACH STEP

CONFIDENTIALITY:

A person must not disclose or be compelled to disclose the _identity_ of a person who makes a report or offers collateral information.

POLICE REPORTS:

It is required by law to report to the police suspected crimes committed against adults that are unable to seek support and assistance on their own.

EMERGENCY IDENTIFICATION:

It is necessary to act without delay in order to preserve the adult's life, prevent serious physical or mental harm, or to protect assets from significant damage or loss.

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Adult Abuse & Neglect - Response Resource