



courtesy of **Adult Protective Services**



What is neglect?

Neglect includes failures by individuals to support the physical, emotional and social needs of adults dependent on others for their care and well-being. Neglect can take the form of not providing adequate food, medications, or access to health care professionals.

Physical Neglect

Includes failing to attend to a person's medical, hygienic, nutrition and dietary needs, such as dispensing medications, failing to arrange doctors appointments, changing bandages, bathing, grooming, dressing, or failure to provide ample food to maintain health.

Emotional Neglect

Failure to meet the individual's emotional well-being such as providing adequate opportunities to socialize with friends and family and engage in meaningful activities.

Abandonment

This occurs when a caregiver relinquishes his or her caregiving duties and neglects to arrange for sufficient care and support for the individual during his or her absence.

Financial Neglect

It involves disregarding a person's financial obligations such as failing to pay rent or mortgage, medical insurance or invoices, utility and garbage bills, property taxes and assessments.

What are some risk factors of neglect?

- Excessive stress or burden on the caregiver.
- Lack of resources and support for the caregiver
- Sudden increase in caregiver responsibilities.
- Isolation of caregiver and vulnerable adult.

What if I'm not sure?

Do you just have a "feeling" about a situation but can't verify the details? APS professionals are trained to handle just such a situation. Based on your report, the agency will assess the situation and determine how best to respond. Your local APS agency can determine the best course of action in any given situation.



CONTACT APS

Reach out to Adult Protective Services if you notice signs of neglect:



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH &
SENIOR SERVICES**

- Call 1-800-392-0210.
- Visit [Health.Mo.Gov/abuse](https://www.health.mo.gov/abuse) or [make a report online](#).

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What is self-neglect?

Self-neglect involves older adults or adults with disabilities who cannot meet their own essential physical, psychological, or social needs, which threatens their health, safety, and well-being. This includes failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter and health care for one's own needs.

What are the signs of self-neglect?

Isn't going to the doctor.
Isn't taking medication as needed.
Doesn't have food, inadequate nutrition.
Lives in unsafe housing conditions such as lack of heat, electricity or running water.
Has poor personal hygiene.
Lacks/won't allow needed care.

What are some risk factors of self-neglect?

Loss of loved one.
Worsening medical problems or a physical disability.
Lack of outside contact, isolated from friends and family.
Lack of a caregiver or lives alone.
Cognitive impairment, dementia.

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