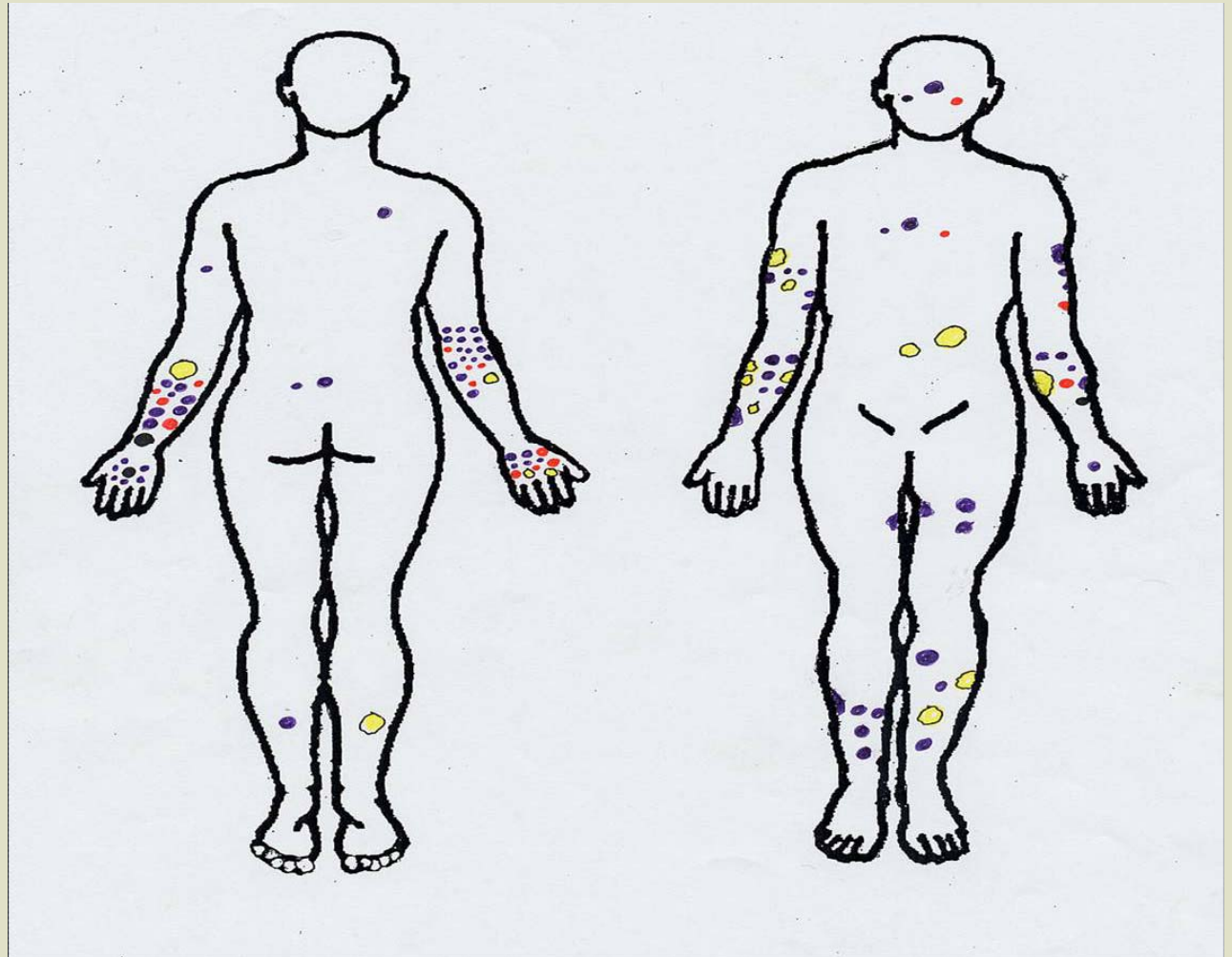


PART I: Accidental Bruising in Older Adults

Key findings from a study of accidental bruising in older adults:

- **Color of a bruise did not indicate its age.** A bruise could have any color from day one.
- **90% of accidental bruises were on the extremities** rather than the trunk, neck or head.
- **Less than a quarter of older adults with accidental bruises remembered** how they got them.
- **Older adults taking medications** that interfere with coagulation pathways were more likely to have **multiple bruises**, but the bruises **did not last any longer** than the bruises of those who didn't take these medications.



Citation: Mosqueda L, Burnight K, Liao S. The life cycle of bruises in older adults. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2005 Aug;53(8):1339-43.

This project was funded by Grant 2001-IJ-CX-KO14 from the Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs

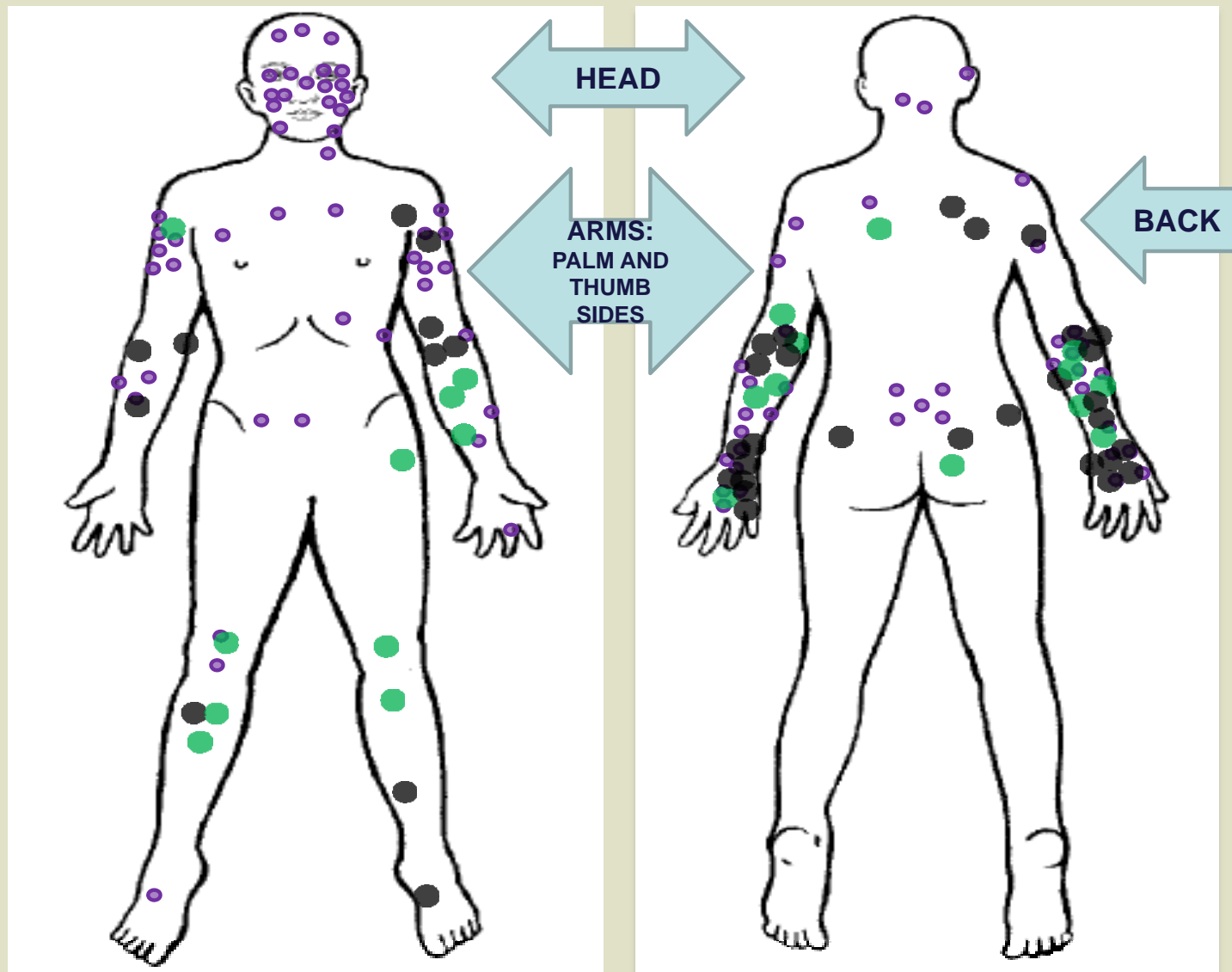
PART II: Bruising in Older Adults as Reported by Abused Elders

Key findings from this study:

- **Bruises were large.** More than half of older adults with bruises who had been physically abused had at least one bruise **5 cm (about 2 inches) in diameter or larger.**

- Older adults with bruises who had been abused had **more bruises in areas indicated with blue arrows** than older adults whose bruises were accidental.

- **90%** of older adults with bruises who have been physically abused **can tell you how they got their bruises, and this includes many older adults with memory problems and dementia.**



This project was funded by Grant 2005-IJ-CX-0048 from the Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs

● Unknown $f=39$
● Accidental $f=23$
● Inflicted $f=93$

Citation: Wigglesworth A, Austin R, Corona M, Schneider D, Liao S, Gibbs L, Mosqueda L. Bruising as a marker of physical elder abuse. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2009 Jul;57(7):1191-6.