



Center of Excellence in Elder Abuse and Neglect

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An e-newsletter from the Center of Excellence in Elder Abuse & Neglect at the University of California, Irvine Program in Geriatrics

Promoting aging with joy and eliminating aging in fear.

RESEARCH: Hospice and palliative care professionals reporting elder mistreatment

Comparing Adult Protective Service workers and Hospice/Palliative Care (HPC) professionals' thresholds for reporting elder abuse, Liao, Kumari, Bufalini, and Wiglesworth found significant differences. In all but the most severe case, APS workers were more likely to accept reports of mistreatment than HPC professionals were to report them, so HPC

professionals should be encouraged to contact APS to discuss cases they are unsure about. Liao S., Jayawardena K.M., Bufalini E., Wiglesworth A. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*. January 1, 2009, 12(1): 64-70.

<http://www.liebertonline.com/doi/abs/10.1089/jpm.2008.0173>

RESEARCH: Economic Distress and Intimate Partner Violence The National Institute of Justice has funded a number of studies that indicate: Intimate partner violence is likelier when couples are experiencing financial strain; Repeat victimization of women is more frequent in couples feeling financial strain; Unstable employment increases the risk of intimate partner violence; Intimate partner violence can lead to both mental and physical health problems, which decreases a woman's ability to retain employment; Intimate partner violence occurs more often, is more severe, and is more likely to be repeated in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. Read the report at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/topics/crime/intimate-partner-violence/economic-distress.htm>

NEW PODCAST: Caregivers, people with dementia, and elder abuse mp3 Aileen Wiglesworth, Ph.D. describes a UC Irvine study to develop and test a model of the factors that affect caregiving for people with dementia. Did abuse commonly occur? What are the strongest predictors of abuse? <http://www.centeronelderabuse.org/page.cfm?pgid=65> (scroll down to Multimedia Downloads section)

DID YOU KNOW... Recent findings about the prevalence of abuse among home-dwelling people with dementia In a study from University College London, Cooper, Blanchard, Selwood, Blizard, Walker and Livingston found that more than half of 220 family caregivers of home-dwelling people with dementia reported engaging in abusive behaviors. Cooper C, Selwood A, Blanchard M, Walker Z, Blizard R, & Livingston G. Abuse of people with dementia by family carers: representative cross sectional survey. *British Medical Journal* 2009, 338: b155. http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/338/jan22_2/b155

New York Times article about this study, "Elder abuse: All in the family?" (Feb. 4, 2009) can be found at <http://newoldage.blogs.nytimes.com/>

REPORT: Powers of Attorney misuse and legislation AARP Public Policy Institute has released a report on Powers of Attorney misuse and a new law that can help improve protections. http://www.aarp.org/research/legal/legalrights/inb164_poa.html

EDUCATION: Elder Abuse and Neglect Session at ASA/NCOA Aging in America Conference On March 17, 2009 in Las Vegas, Nevada, the American Society on Aging and National Council on Aging Conference will feature a special day-long session, Elder Abuse and Neglect: Advancing the Field. This session will provide briefings on national issues, information about a statewide initiative in California, and offer participants the opportunity to share resources, ideas, and network with colleagues. Visit www.agingconference.org and click "Learn More About AiA's Forums" on the right-side menu for a fuller description.

GERIATRIC POCKET DOC Ever wish there was an easy-to-use reference guide for basic questions about geriatric medicine and elder abuse? Now there is! For more information visit <http://www.centeronelderabuse.org/page.cfm?pgid=58>

ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS The Alzheimer's Association invites you to sign a proclamation urging President Obama to make Alzheimer's a national priority. <http://www.alz.org>

PLEASE ADD our address, centeronelderabuse@uci.edu to your address book!

PLEASE FORWARD THIS E-MAIL to your contacts who might be interested.

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