



Self Neglect Issues in the Elderly

Characteristics of Self Neglect

- Individual lives alone.
- More likely to suffer from mental illness or physical illnesses, such as, Alzheimer's Disease
- Decreased physical abilities
- Alcohol or drug problems
- More women than men self neglect

Signs of Self-Neglect

- Dehydration. Malnutrition. Bedsores. Unexpected/unexplained deterioration of health.
- Excessive dirt or odor. Hazardous, unsafe or unclean living conditions.
- Absence of needed eyeglasses, hearing aids, dentures or prostheses.
- Inadequate or inappropriate clothing.

What to do:

Contact:
Local Elder Protective Services
or
Illinois Protective Services
24-Hour Hotline
1-866-800-1409.

Illinois recently passed legislation to address situations of Self Neglect involving the elderly. "Self Neglect" is defined by a condition that is the result of an eligible adult's inability, due to physical or mental impairments, or both, or a diminished capacity, to perform essential self-care tasks that substantially threaten his or her own health, including; providing essential food, clothing, shelter, and health care; and obtaining goods and services necessary to maintain physical health, mental health, emotional well-being, and general safety.

For More Information Contact:

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