

## Lesson One – Introduction to Physical Elder Abuse

# FOCUS: Developing Awareness of Patient-Focused Care

**10 minutes**

**Purpose:**

To help students develop an awareness of patient-focused care.

**Materials:**

- *Introduction to Physical Elder Abuse (Focus on Empathy)* worksheet
- *Introduction to Physical Elder Abuse (Focus on Empathy)* instructor resource page

**Facilitation Steps:**

1. Distribute the *Introduction to Physical Elder Abuse (Focus on Empathy)* worksheet before or at the beginning of class.
2. Have the *Introduction to Physical Elder Abuse (Focus on Empathy)* instructor resource page available.
3. Have students read through the information and complete the worksheet.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Introduction to Physical Elder Abuse (Focus on Empathy)

**Skill: To foster empathy and sensitivity**

**READ** the following:

You are working as an LVN at a skilled nursing facility when you hear a commotion coming from a resident's room. You go towards the room, where you hear a visiting family member tell the resident, Rose, to shut up. You enter the room and find Rose, the resident, with multiple bruises on her face and arms. Her daughter tells you that she fell. Her face is swollen and bleeding, with a possible fractured nose. Her daughter is standing near Rose and quickly begins trying to help with the bleeding. You ask what happened and Rose tells you that she fell into the wall while walking to the bathroom. Rose seems extremely nervous and her injuries are not consistent with someone falling into a wall. While you are bandaging Rose's wounds, you ask a CNA to call 911. Rose's daughter tells you that she has power of attorney and that she will take care of her mother. Rose refuses medical treatment and asks for everyone to leave the room.

**REFLECT** on the situation:

What emotions do you think Rose is feeling?

What emotions do you think the nursing staff are feeling in this situation?

Do you think some family members can become less patient as their parents get older?

What would you say to Rose's daughter regarding the situation and need for medical treatment?

**SHARE** your thoughts with a peer when it's discussion time.

## Introduction to Physical Elder Abuse (Focus on Empathy) Instructor Resource

**Skill: To foster empathy and sensitivity**

**READ** the following:

You are working as an LVN at a skilled nursing facility when you hear a commotion coming from a resident's room. You go towards the room, where you hear a visiting family member tell the resident, Rose, to shut up. You enter the room and find Rose, the resident, with multiple bruises on her face and arms. Her daughter tells you that she fell. Her face is swollen and bleeding, with a possible fractured nose. Her daughter is standing near Rose and quickly begins trying to help with the bleeding. You ask what happened and Rose tells you that she fell into the wall while walking to the bathroom. Rose seems extremely nervous and her injuries are not consistent with someone falling into a wall. While you are bandaging Rose's wounds, you ask a CNA to call 911. Rose's daughter tells you that she has power of attorney and that she will take care of her mother. Rose refuses medical treatment and asks for everyone to leave the room.

**REFLECT** on the situation:

What emotions do you think Rose is feeling?

*I think Rose would be feeling scared, helpless, anxious, and vulnerable.*

What emotions do you think the nursing staff are feeling in this situation?

*I think the nursing staff would be feeling sympathetic towards Rose, and angry with Rose's daughter.*

Do you think some family members can become less patient as their parents get older?

*It depends on the situation, but I think many people have less patience with their elderly parents because they require more attention and they are not able to care for themselves like they used to. Some people resent seeing their parents get older and the work that is needed to care for them.*

What would you say to Rose's daughter regarding the situation and need for medical treatment?

*I would not confront the daughter with my concerns that she is the person abusing her mother, but I would tell her that Rose wants to go to the hospital, and she is capable of making her own decisions for treatment. I would also include that it is the facility's policy to call 911 for an injured or sick resident.*

**SHARE** your thoughts with a peer when it's discussion time.