Neglect and Acts of Omission

Neglect refers to the failure to provide necessary care or support, while acts of omission are specific failures to take action that could prevent harm or neglect.

Types of Neglect and Acts of Omission

- Failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, heating, stimulation and activity, personal or medical care
- Providing care in a way that the person dislikes
- Failure to administer medication as prescribed
- Refusal of access to visitors
- Not taking account of individuals' cultural, religious or ethnic needs
- Not taking account of educational, social and recreational needs
- Ignoring or isolating the person
- Preventing the person from making their own decisions
- Preventing access to glasses, hearing aids, dentures, etc.
- Failure to ensure privacy and dignity

Signs and Indicators

- Poor environment – dirty or unhygienic
- Poor physical condition and/or personal hygiene
- Pressure sores or ulcers
- Malnutrition or unexplained weight loss
- Untreated injuries and medical problems
- Inconsistent or reluctant contact with medical and social care organisations
- Accumulation of untaken medication
- Uncharacteristic failure to engage in social interaction
- Inappropriate or inadequate clothing

Support Services

- To make a safeguarding referral visit: Report abuse/neglect of a vulnerable adult or contact the Community Adult Front Door on 01942 828777

Neglect and Acts of Omission

What is Neglect and Acts of Omission?

Neglect and acts of omission refers to the failure to provide necessary care or support and take action that could prevent harm or neglect.

Key Characteristics

- Failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, heating, stimulation and activity, personal or medical care
- Providing care in a way that the person dislikes
- Failure to administer medication as prescribed
- Refusal of access to visitors
- Preventing access to glasses, hearing aids, dentures etc.
- Failure to ensure privacy and dignity.

Signs and Indicators:

- Poor environment
- Poor physical condition and or personal hygiene
- Pressure sores
- Malnutrition or unexplained weight loss.
- Untreated injuries
- Accumulation of untaken medication
- Preventing a person from making their own decisions
- Ignoring or isolating a person.

Legal Framework

- The Care Act 2014