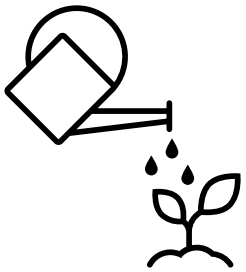
Self-neglect

This covers a wide range of behaviour neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding.

Possible indicators of self-neglect:



- Very poor personal hygiene
- Unkempt appearance
- Lack of essential food, clothing or shelter
- Malnutrition and/ or dehydration
- Living in squalid or unsanitary conditions
- Neglecting household maintenance
- Hoarding
- Collecting a large number of animals in inappropriate conditions
- Non-compliance with health or care services
- Inability or unwillingness to take medication or treat illness or injury.

Intentional, or Active Self-Neglect: When a person makes a conscious choice to engage in self-neglect. For example, they may actively refuse to visit a doctor when they're feeling unwell.

Non-Intentional, or Passive Self-Neglect: When health-related conditions contribute to a risk of developing self-neglect. For example, a person with a learning disability may have lapses in concentration that may make them forget to attend to their personal hygiene.

Hoarding

Hoarding disorder is a mental health condition in which a person feels a strong need to save a large number of items, whether they have monetary value or not, and experiences significant distress when attempting to get rid of the items. The hoarding impairs their daily life.

Signs of Hoarding:

Someone who has a hoarding disorder may typically:

- keep or collect items that may have little or no monetary value, such as junk mail and carrier bags, or items they intend to reuse or repair
- find it hard to categorise or organise items
- have difficulty making decisions
- struggle to manage everyday tasks, such as cooking, cleaning and paying bills
- become extremely attached to items, refusing to let anyone touch or borrow them
- have poor relationships with family or friends

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.

Belongings Support Group Flyer

Ice Breaker Form - Hoarding Disorders UK

Self -Neglect

What is Self-neglect?

Self-neglect is defined as the inability or unwillingness to care for ones' s essential needs.

Key Characteristics

- Lack of self-care to an extent that threatens personal health and safety
- Inability to avoid self-harm
- Failure to seek help or access services to meet health and social care needs
- Inability or unwillingness to

Signs of Self-neglect

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Legal Framework

- The Care Act 2014