

Case Scenario

1) A 56 year old lady comes to see you in your surgery regarding her mother who is a frail 84 year old, nursing home resident, post CVA .

The daughter raises issues concerning neglect of her mother.

What issues does this raise?

2) You discover that the Nursing Home in question is run by one of the partners in your practice.

Discuss.

3) The next day you notice a visit requested by the nursing home to review this patient.

You visit and find a pressure sore on her foot.

What are the implications?

4) The Commission for Social Care Inspection investigate and find no problems with the home.

The daughter decides to try and move her elderly mother to a different home.

What issues does this raise?

Points for Discussion

1) What issues does this raise?

Is it true neglect?

Confidentiality and exceptions to confidentiality - duty of care/wider public interest.

Autonomy

Capacity

Professional duties

Equality

Feelings and issues raised for those involved i.e.

daughter/mother/doctor/carers at home.

NSF standard 1 & 2 - discrimination/individuals needs

2) Discuss

Relationships within the practice and how to raise issues.

Priorities for G.P. concerned - business vs patient care/ dual interest. (Harold Shipman)

Does this effect what you do next?

3) What are the implications?

What is abuse? Fine line between neglect and unavoidable events.

Nursing home staffing levels/ relative expectations (?Underlying issues of guilt)

How to report abuse? Who to speak to/advise - social services - adult protection policy if in own home and Commission for Social Care Inspection (new name for National Care Standards Committee) if in nursing home.

There is no standard regarding adult protection in the Elderly NSF.

4) What are the issues?

Autonomy of patient. Does the mother want to move.

Funding issue - if funded by social services this may not be possible.

If a move does happen how this would affect a frail 84 year old.

How the whole episode would affect your relationships - with daughter/mother/partner in practice/carers of the home/other residents in the home/implications for the wider community.