## **Nursing Home Abuse and Neglect A Growing Concern**



**General Population of people over 65** 

Number of Nursing Homes in the U.S.

In 2003: 35,919,174 In 2012: 43,145,356 In 2003: 16380 In 2012: 15652

In 2012, more than 1.4 million people 65 and older lived in nursing homes.

### **Bed Sores in Nursing Homes**

Bed sores are among the most serious medical conditions that occur at nursing

The rate of pressure ulcers in nursing home patients is often a quality-care indicator.

Between 2 percent and 28 percent of nursing home residents currently suffer from bed sores.

More than 10 percent of nursing home residents have suffered from a pressure ulcer.

Of those patients, about half of those diagnosed had Stage 2 bed sores. More than one-third of all nursing home residents with bed sores rated as "Stage 2" or higher required "special wound care services."



About 5% of adults 65 and older live in nursing homes, but nursing home residents account for about 20% of deaths from falls in this age group.

20%

16.6%

16.6% reported a fall (since they were admitted or since the most recent assessment).

1800

About 1,800 older adults living in nursing homes die each year from fall-related injuries Those who survive frequently sustain injuries that result in permanent disability and reduced quality of life.

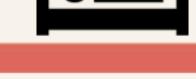
#### Each year, a typical nursing home with 100 beds reports 100 - 200 falls. Many falls go unreported.

Between half and threequarters of nursing home residents fall each year. That's twice the rate of falls among older adults living in the community.

Falls result in disability functional decline, and reduced quality of life Fear of falling can cause further loss of function, depression, feelings of helplessness, and social isolation.

in nursing homes cause 16% to 27% of falls among residents. Such hazards include and improperly fitted or maintained wheelchairs.

Environmental hazards



These preventative measures are the responsibility of the Nursing Home. Are they doing this properly?

#### According to the CDC fall prevention in nursing homes presents multiple challenges. Fall interventions include:

benefits and to minimize use.

for residents to move around safely.

- 1. Assessing patients after a fall to identify and address risk factors and treat the underlying medical conditions.
- 2. Educating staff about fall risk factors and prevention strategies. Reviewing prescribed medicines to assess their potential risks and
- 4. Making changes in the nursing home environment to make it easier
- Providing patients with hip pads that may prevent a hip fracture
- Exercise programs can improve balance, strength, walking ability, and physical functioning among nursing home residents.

Abandonment

# Other Signs of Abuse or Neglect

if a fall occurs.

Malnutrition or dehydration Bed sores, pressure ulcers Gangrene Aspiration pneumonia Over-sedation Poor medical care Medication mistakes Lack of supervision Property theft

Physical injury from falls

Ineffective equipment Sexual assault Coercion Physical or mental abuse Poor Hygiene Bruises Fractures Urinary Tract Infections Sepsis Wrongful death



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 http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/CertificationandComplianc/downloads/nursinghomedatacompendium\_508.pdf

2. http://www.injurylawyer.com/practice-areas/personal-injury/abuse/nursing-home-abuse-attorneys/ 3. http://medicare.gov/NursingHomeCompare/Resources/Resident-Rights.html