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Objectives

- Identify skin conditions and wounds related to aging skin and disease processes
- Common signs of abuse
- Potentially suspicious signs of abuse



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Aging Skin

- Overall functions of skin decrease with age
- Decrease in sweat, and sebum
- Increased sensitivity to UV radiation
- Increased risk of photocarcinogenesis
- Greater susceptibility for skin infections
- Slow wound healing
- Collagen degradation, decreased vascular response
- Decrease in subcutaneous fat



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Aging Skin

- Wounds can develop in the elderly population due to current disease processes and contributing factors.
 - The skin is not able to repair itself quickly
 - Chronic wounds
 - Wound maintenance vs. healing



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Disease and Contributing Factors

- Diabetes: high blood sugar, over long periods of time, loss of sensation to legs and feet
- Arteriosclerosis: plaque build up body doesn't get enough blood
- Venous insufficiency: veins can't send the blood from the legs to the heart
- Kidney Disease: dry skin, build up of toxins
- Pressure
- Nutrition
- Mobility
- Incontinence and Perspiration



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////////WARNING\\\\\\

GRAPHIC CONTENT



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Skin Disorders Lower Extremities

- Xerosis
 - Thick dry skin, crust
- Hemosiderin Staining
 - Brown/red discoloration to lower extremities
- Venous Stasis Changes
 - Swelling, discoloration, large draining ulcers
- Arterial Skin Changes
 - Thin and shiny skin, painful ulcers, and reddish-blue discoloration
- Diabetic Ulcers
 - Usually located on plantar surface of feet and toes



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Common Dermatitis

Dermatitis is a term that describes skin inflammation. Causes: irritants, allergens, chronic disease Symptoms: dry skin, red, swelling, itchy



Photoallergic Reaction

Venous Dermatitis

Eczema

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Common Dermatitis

- Incontinence-Associate Dermatitis
 - Urine and feces
 - 50% incidence
 - Complications: fungal, bacterial, ulcerations,



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Common Dermatitis

- Moisture Associated Dermatitis
 - Trapped perspiration between skin folds
 - Complications: fungal, bacterial ulcerations



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Types of Bruising

Skin and blood vessels become more fragile with age there are different conditions that cause easy bruising and bleeding.



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Pressure Injuries



Pressure injuries develop when pressure cuts off the blood supply to the skin for a long period of time. There are usually many factors that lead to pressure injury development.



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Bites and Infestations

Can cause skin infections and sepsis



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Fungating Wounds

Extension of a malignant tumor into the structures of the skin producing ulceration or lesion



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Common Signs of Abuse

Some physical signs of abuse include:

- Broken bones
- Bruises
- Burns
- Dislocated joints
- Signs of self-treated injuries
- Sprains
- Sudden unexplained hair loss
- Tooth loss

Signs of elder self-neglect include:

- Bedsores or skin rashes
- Dehydration or weight loss
- Inadequate or unclean clothing
- Lack of food in the home
- Lack of needed medical aids
- Poor personal hygiene
- Poor sleep
- Unpaid bills
- Unclean or unsafe home
- Untreated infections or injuries

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Common Signs of Abuse

Someone may be the victim of elder abandonment if they are alone and:

- Appear confused, lost, or scared
- Look lonely or depressed
- Seem frail, malnourished, or dehydrated
- Have poor hygiene

Neglect

- Basic Daily living activities or shelter
- Clothing
- Hygiene upkeep
- Medical care
- Nutrition and hydration
- Protection from danger



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Focus on Locations

Physical elder abuse victims were more likely to have injuries in the:

- **Neck**
- **Ulnar forearm**
 - *This pattern of injury may occur when a victim defends him/herself from an abuser*
- **Left peri-orbital area**
 - *Left-sided facial injuries are more frequent after assault than right-sided, likely because most assailants are right-handed*



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Potentially Suspicious Physical Signs

Physical Abuse

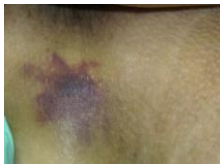
- **Bruising in atypical locations**
- Patterned injuries
- Wrist or ankle lesions or scars
- Burns
- Multiple fractures or bruises or different ages
- *Not over bony prominences*
- *On lateral arms, back, face, ears, or neck*



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Potentially Suspicious Physical Signs

- Physical Abuse
 - Bruising in atypical locations
 - **Patterned injuries**
 - Wrist or ankle lesions or scars
 - Burns
 - Multiple fractures or bruises of different ages
- *Bite marks*
- *Injury consistent with the shape of a belt buckle, fingertip, or other object*



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Potentially Suspicious Physical Signs

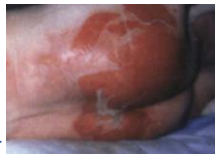
- Physical Abuse
 - Bruising in atypical locations
 - Patterned injuries
 - **Wrist or ankle lesions or scars**
 - Burns
 - Multiple fractures or bruises of different ages
- *Suggesting restraint*



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Potentially Suspicious Physical Signs

- Physical Abuse
 - Bruising in atypical locations
 - Patterned injuries
 - Wrist or ankle lesions or scars
 - **Burns**
 - Multiple fractures or bruises of different ages



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Potentially Suspicious Physical Signs

- Physical Abuse
- Bruising in atypical locations
- Patterned injuries
- Wrist or ankle lesions or scars
- Burns
- **Multiple fractures or bruises or different ages**



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Potentially Suspicious Physical Signs

- Neglect



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Post Discharge Needs

- Home Health
- Wound care supplies
- Follow up appointments
- Education for care givers



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Thank you!