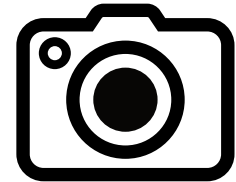


Thank you for joining us today



Ensure your microphone is turned off.



Ensure your camera is turned off.



Use the chat function to ask questions.



This seminar may cover some sensitive issues.
If you find any of the content distressing, please feel free to take a break or leave and re-join.



Can Physical abuse be prevented?

Dr Elisabeth Alton
Named GP Safeguarding Adults
Trustee ACT



To be, or not to be
the question

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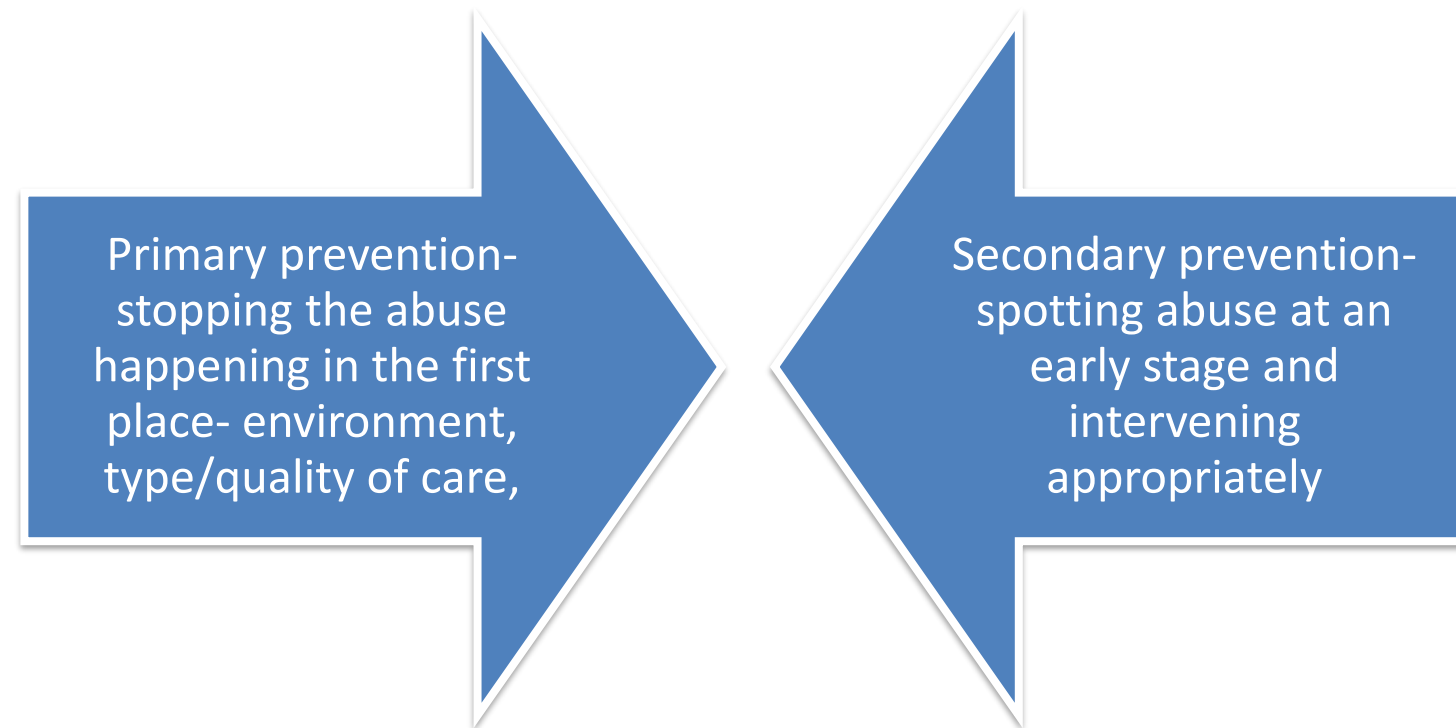
This is a difficult session-
be positive and think how it may help you
influence a persons care in the future



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The Humber Prototype- Providing a forensic service for adults at risk of harm

Working with the Safeguarding Adult Team at the Local Authority we aim to provide a documentation, interpretation and report writing service for the purpose of a Section 42 report where physical abuse is the suspected cause of harm





The Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians

Raising standards in forensic and legal medicine; protecting vulnerable people

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Adult Safeguarding Hub

- Pro-forma for examination
- Sexual assault of individuals who lack capacity to consent to a SARC medical
- Peer support group

Hypothesis- Physical abuse can be prevented

- How have I formed this opinion?
- Thematic analysis of SARs for physical abuse
- Data from the Humber Forensic Prototype- Safeguarding Adults at Risk of Harm
- Looked at themes that may assist practitioners working with adults at risk of physical abuse

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Definitions are hard to come by for physical abuse in adults

Physical abuse including:

- assault
- hitting
- slapping
- pushing
- misuse of medication
- restraint
- inappropriate physical sanctions

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Physical abuse is defined as deliberately hurting a child and causing physical harm (Department of Health, 2017;

Humber Project has shown that injuries occur due to accidents that have a high risk of reoccurrence as well as deliberate physical abuse

Not all physical violence results in a discernible injury

Where has the data come from?

Searched the SAR library in September 2023

Initially 339 results

'skim read', discarded non-relevant SAR's

61 cases in total finally used

Part of a Doctorate of Professional Practice
(Teesside University)

nationalnetwork.org.uk/search.html

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Collected data from the
Humber Prototype

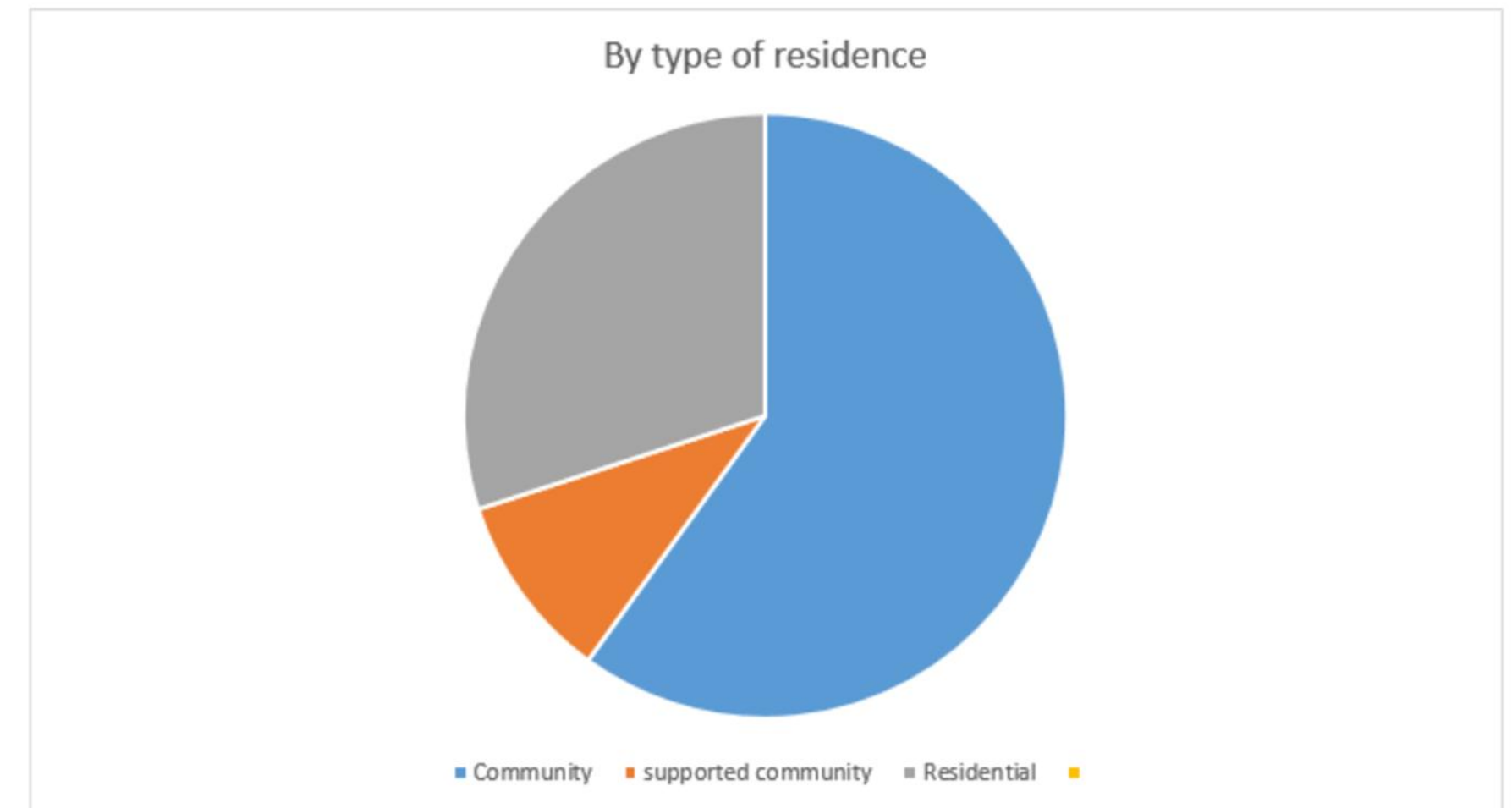


Case Analysis using grounded
theory regarding injuries

The community is a dangerous place

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Those closest to you have the potential to be dangerous people!

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Relationship between victim and perpetrator causing physical harm



UK- victim and perpetrator have no obvious relationship or injury is unexplained, DV=domestic violence, E=exploitation, R= resident on resident, ND= nil documented in SAR, PC=Paid carer

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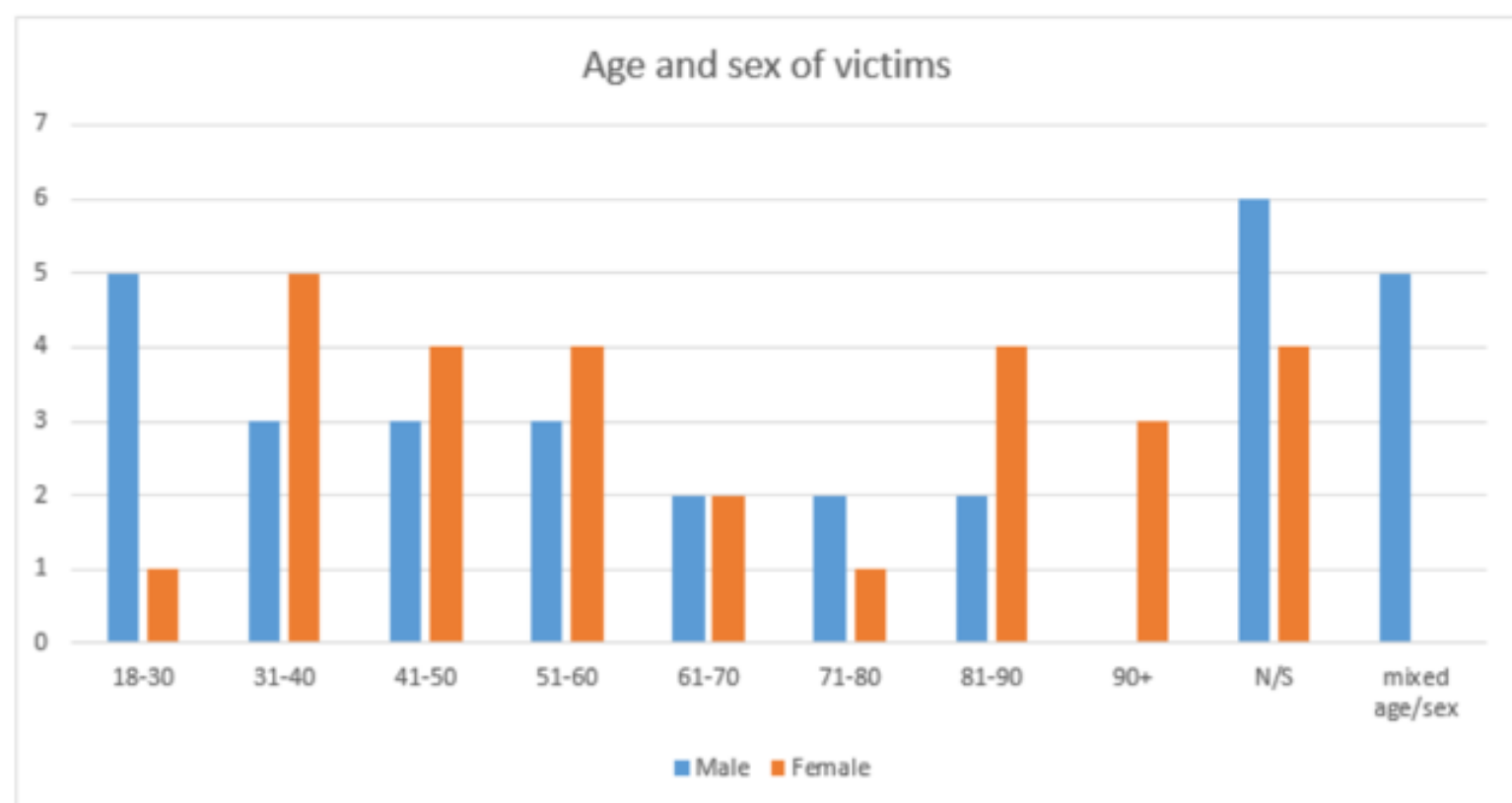
The SAR data was clear- you are more likely to be a victim of serious physical abuse if you lived in the community with the source of harm being those closest to you

- Recognise the greater risk
- Consider how you might put in extra resource for protection
- Use community signposting to provide support for the person

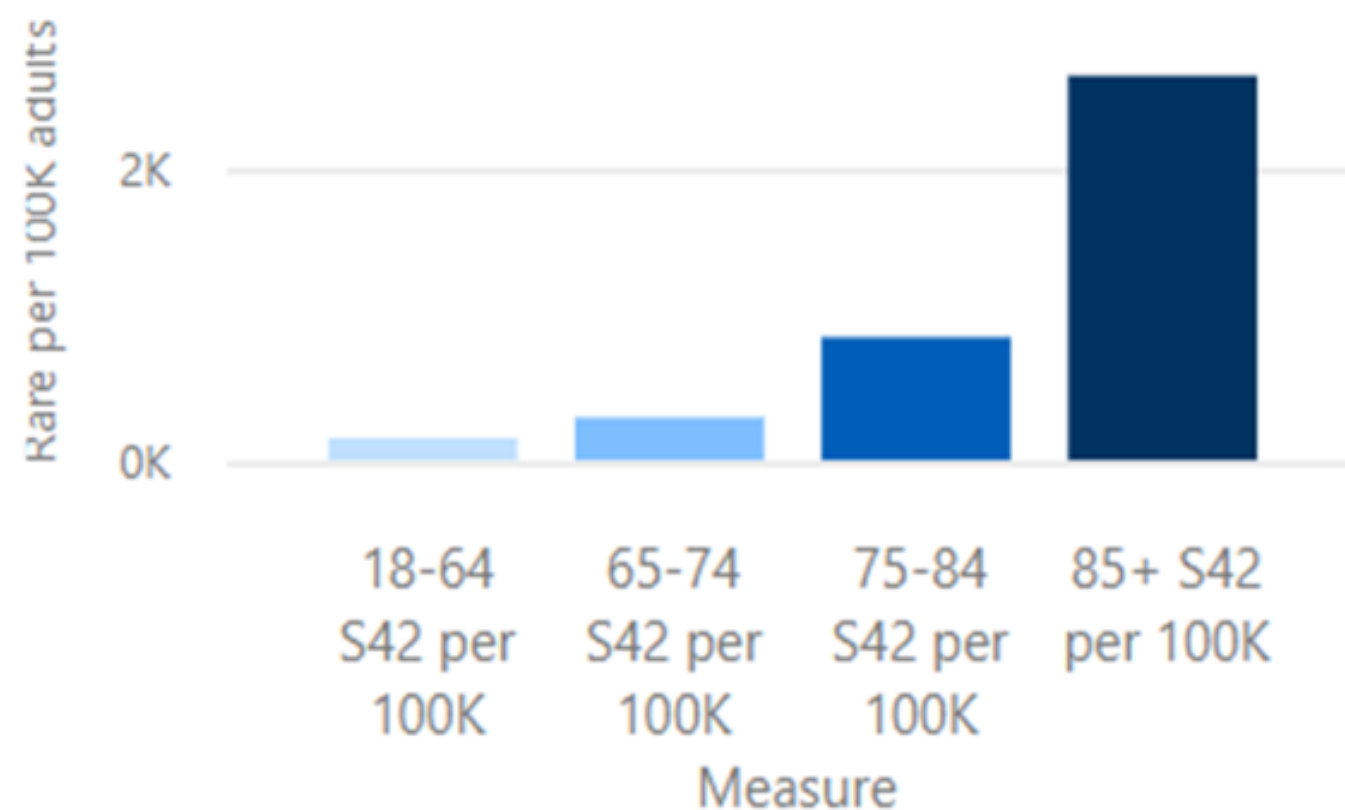


Quantitative SAR data- age and sex

SAR Data- physical abuse



England completed S42 2022-23



Humber data follows the NHS Digital Data for S42

Age

- SARs for physical abuse were notable in that the age of the victim showed a completely different profile to S42 referrals by age
- They also differed by age for SARs for other type of abuse
- Serious physical abuse is more common in the younger age group
- Consider the added risk of the younger age group

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Adults disclosing, they are fearful of another person

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Harry, (Mellor, D., 2016) was murdered by his x partner who may have been pregnant with his child, and her new boyfriend, the SAR reports-

'A month or so before he died Harry rang his father and told him that Karen and John were trying to kill him'

'Dean made a complaint to staff at the supported housing provider that the perpetrator's behaviour towards him was unbearable and he wanted to move to different accommodation. Arrangements were made to move him the following day, which Dean was happy about. That same evening, the perpetrator went into Dean's room and stabbed Dean to death while he was sleeping in his bed.'



Listen and
act on what
people say

Antecedent (sentinel) Injuries

- Look upon a prior injury as a warning sign

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‘On 6th October 2013 the Police recorded a racially aggravated common assault where Mr X had repeatedly punched Kamil in the communal area of their accommodation.’ Kamil Ahmad (Ohdedar, D., Dalton, M, 2018)

Adult A (Lancashire SAB) had a ‘small graze on her leg’

Should I be worried about any anatomical location of injury ?

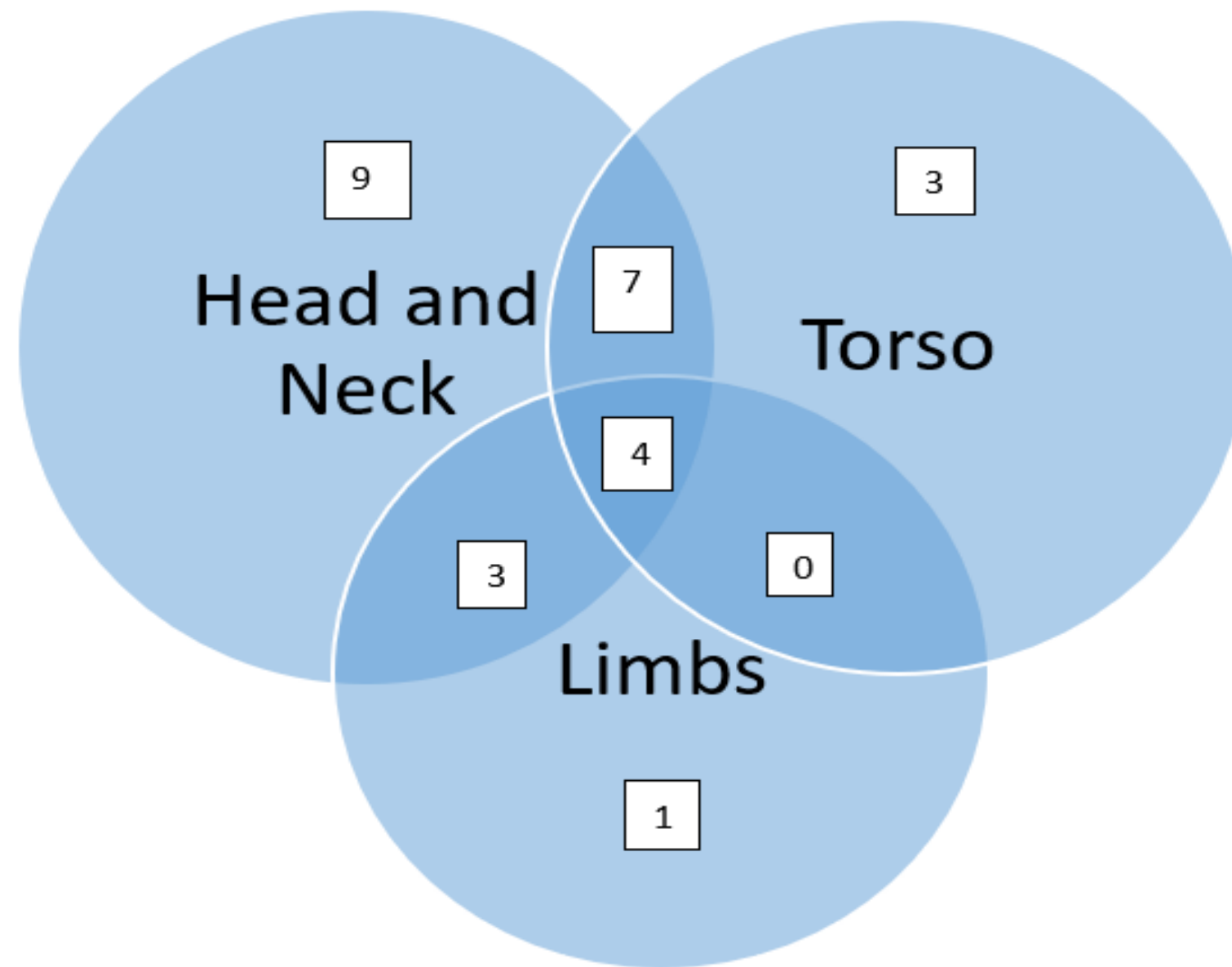


Figure Combination of Anatomical Site of Injuries Sustained by Adults

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Disorder of the mind or brain



■ LTND ■ Dementia ■ Mental Health ■ LD/ND ■ Substance Misuse ■ Nil

The potential for cognitive impairment may add to risk

Capacity Assessments in Potential Physical abuse

- The person doing the assessment must understand what the risk of physical abuse may pose to the individual

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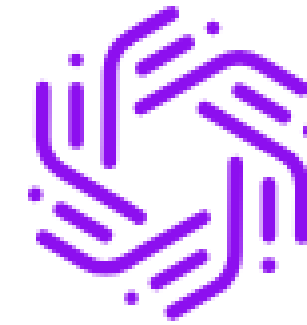
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- 'About 6 years ago I worked with another support worker called..... I recall that she once asked me if I had noticed any bruising on Karen's neck. I had not but the next time I saw her which was within a couple of days I looked and did notice that Karen had a number of prominent bruises on her neck (and) the pattern and distribution looked like finger marks to me. I cannot recall if I asked Karen about the bruises because Simon was always there but I think we did make a report about the marks which should be in their file with Lifeways, it would have been an incident and accident report.' Karen (WSAB,2017)



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Institute For
Addressing
Strangulation

Information leaflets for victims
of strangulation

<https://ifas.org.uk/resources/>

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If you do not know what the risks are



Seek help



Consider doing the capacity assessment
with someone with specialist knowledge

The association with exploitation

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‘one person, either opportunistically or premeditatedly, unfairly manipulates another person for profit or personal gain’ (Gardner, A., 2024).

Cuckooing, Mate Crime and Physical Abuse

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Tom's property, (Cheeseman, P., 2017), was visited by many unwanted visitors particularly sex workers,

'Another associate (a known sex worker) had taken Tom's job which allowed her access through the security system of the address.'

'He said individuals have been staying at his property against his will for approximately a month but these have now been removed following him contacting the police'

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking and Physical Abuse

‘one of the men beat her and that two of them took her in the van to on the day the bailiffs attended the property and that one of them had a knife.’ (Drina)

‘the abuse that she experienced, including physical abuse, being given drugs to stay awake, being forced to look after the family’s animals, and having to care for the children.’ (Adult D)

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Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse the association with Physical Abuse

- *‘that she had experienced further serious sexual abuse, exploitation and physical assaults by multiple perpetrators, both on and off the island.’ Miss T.*
- ‘same patients became distressed when he simulated masturbation in front of them and their new colleague’ as well as, ‘the male care worker getting into bed with this patient’.* Beacon Lodge

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Exploitation

Intervening	Intervening to stop exploitation at an early stage
Using	Using legal measures
Supporting	Supporting individuals with loneliness

Think about using your new knowledge to prevent harm



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Elisabeth.alton@nhs.net



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Thank you for joining us today and don't forget to raise awareness on social media!

#SafeguardingAdultsWeek



If you found any of the content distressing, please contact us for further support or advice via our website.

anncrafttrust.org

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