

4.6 PREVENTION OF ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT OF VULNERABLE ADULT CLIENTS

CHC develops and implements a care plan for each client to prevent the abuse and/or neglect of vulnerable clients.

Purpose:

- ☛ To ensure the appropriate care is provided to vulnerable client in the prevention of abuse and/or neglect.
- ☛ To report within four (4) hours any suspected cases of neglect and/or abuse to the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in accordance with the *Neglected Adults Welfare Act*.

Procedure:

- ☛ Each client is assessed for vulnerability upon initiation of home health service by a registered nurse.
- ☛ Risk factors of abuse neglect or identified and documented within the client file.
- ☛ A prevention plan is developed and implemented to address the client's vulnerability and intervention is taken to minimize or eliminate the risk of abuse, neglect.
- ☛ Should any employee of CHC have any information regarding the neglect and/or abuse of an adult as defined within the *Neglected Adults Welfare Act*, they should report such information to a social worker, case worker, RNC or RCMP within four (4) hours of any knowledge of such neglect/or abuse.
- ☛ Any investigation of suspected abuse/neglect shall be conducted by the authorities.
- ☛ Should the perpetrator of the selected abuse/neglect be an employee of CHC, this employee will immediately cease all employment with this agency until the conclusion of the investigation.
- ☛ A Client Abuse Neglect Report Form will be filled out and placed within the client file and staff file if applicable. A copy of this report will also be given to the investigating authorities.
- ☛ All HSW shall be informed of this procedure during the orientation session at the time of hire.