

Understaffing and quality of care present dangerous situations to the elderly and infirm in the nation's nursing homes.

According to surveys conducted by the United States General Accounting Office, more than one-fourth of the U.S. nursing homes had deficiencies that either caused harm to residents or put them at risk for death or serious injury.

During your next visit, please look for the following signs of neglect:

- Bed Sores
- Bruises and/or bumps
- Fractures
- Weight Loss
- Contractures due to lack of physical therapy
- Dirty beds, sheets and clothes
- Resident failing to finish meals and no assistance by staff to help feed them
- Complaints by the resident of mistreatment

If something doesn't seem right, bring a camera and take photographs

When choosing a nursing home for a loved one, make sure to investigate thoroughly. Inquire about the number of nurses and past claims of abuse. Do not be afraid to ask the difficult questions regarding your loved one's care. Make sure that you have specific needs of your loved one addressed in the written contract.

If you suspect any neglect or abuse of your loved one, call 1-800-50-ABUSE or go to www.InjuredUS.com for a free consultation with one of our attorneys.

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