## Neglect and acts of omission

Neglect is failing to provide an adequate standard of care. It may occur deliberately or by omission, and it includes:

* Failure to provide essential nutrition, clothing, medication and heating.
* Ignoring physical or medical care needs.
* Ignoring emotional care needs
* Denying access to medical, psychiatric, psychological or social care.
* Failure to assess risk or to intervene to avert or reduce danger.
* Failure to access assessments or technical aids (e.g. hearing test/aids).
* Failure to access to educational services
* Failure to give privacy and dignity in delivery of care.
* Providing care in a way that the person dislikes
* Refusal of access to visitors
* Not taking account of individuals’ cultural, religious or ethnic needs
* Ignoring or isolating the person
* Preventing the person from making their own decisions
* Failure to ensure privacy and dignity

Possible indicators

Factors that may indicate neglect include:

* Malnutrition, rapid or continuous weight loss, complaints of hunger or thirst.
* Dehydration.
* Poor personal hygiene.
* Untreated pressure sores.
* Indications of untreated medical problems.
* Signs of mal administration of medication.
* Failure to provide hearing aids, mobility aids, glasses and dentures.
* Clothing and bedding dirty, wet, soiled, inadequate or inappropriate.
* Accommodation in poor state, inadequate heating or lighting.
* Failure to adhere to agreed care plans and risk assessments.
* Failure to ensure appropriate privacy and dignity.
* Person is exposed to unacceptable risk.
* Inconsistent or reluctant contact with medical and social care organisations
* Accumulation of untaken medication
* Uncharacteristic failure to engage in social interaction
* Inappropriate or inadequate clothing

[What is Neglect? - Ann Craft Trust](https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/what-is-neglect/)

<https://www.scie.org.uk/safeguarding/adults/introduction/types-and-indicators-of-abuse#self-neglect>