



VESPA **Vulnerable Elder Services, Protection and Advocacy Team**

Multi-Disciplinary Consultations for Elder Abuse and Maltreatment

Are you worried your patient may be experiencing elder abuse or neglect? If so the Vulnerable Elder Services, Protection, and Advocacy (VESPA) team is here to help!

We are now offering consults to Colorado healthcare providers when there is concern for physical, sexual, emotional, and financial abuse, or caregiver neglect*.

*At this time, self-neglect consultations are not eligible.

● Multi-disciplinary Virtual Consults consist of:

- Clinical presentation by concerned provider
- Case review (including images and radiographs) by our multi-disciplinary team
- **Recommendations for:**
 - Estimating abuse likelihood
 - Reporting
 - Coordination with Adult Protective Services and law-enforcement, victims services, legal and community resources, and medical and psychologic follow-up.
- **Support is provided** on how to navigate these challenging cases

● VESPA Include:

- **A Dedicated social worker** who can help navigate systems, connect with victims, programs, and provide recommendations for ongoing care coordination.
- **Geriatricians** who can help with medical recommendations including interpretation of physical exam findings, differentiation of normal aging vs concerns for maltreatment, and helping with the impact of cognitive impairment.
- **Other Family Violence Experts** from multiple medical and social disciplines.

● Some Questions We Can Help With:

- * How concerned should I be?
- * What testing might decrease uncertainty?
- * What do I need to do to report?
- * How can I provide my patient with the best resources when abuse is likely?
- * How can I navigate ethical questions related to maltreatment?
- * How do I help ensure my patient's safety?

● Who we see?

- * Older adults (>70 yrs) with concerns for abuse or caregiver neglect
- * Adults 40-70 yrs with geriatric syndromes where there is a concern for abuse or neglect
- * **At this time we cannot see patients for self neglect alone, however, if there is concern for other types of abuse please contact us**

Contact us: vespa@cuanschutz.edu with questions or to schedule a virtual multi-disciplinary team meeting.

To learn more about VESPA please visit: <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/center-on-aging/clinical-care/vespa>

Thank you to our Funder for providing this consultation service at no-charge



In Collaboration with Our Health
Care Partners



Home of VESPA @ CU Anschutz

Multidisciplinary Center on Aging
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS