



National Collaboratory to Address  
**Elder Mistreatment**



## Elder Mistreatment Emergency Department Toolkit

**1 in 10**

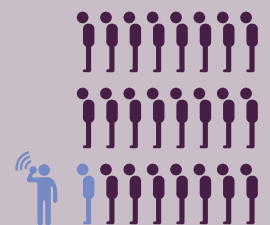


people ages 60 and older  
experience some form of  
mistreatment

*"I think [the Elder Mistreatment Emergency Department Toolkit] enhances our current practice. And it provides a service to patients that may otherwise fall through the cracks. And so, it's good for our patients. It's good for our community."*

— Hospital Emergency Center Manager

**1 in 24**



cases of elder mistreatment  
are reported to the  
authorities

### THE CHALLENGE:

Elder mistreatment is a prevalent public health problem in the US that has devastating consequences. It can be defined as the abuse or neglect of an older adult by a person they trust, including physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Even as we enter an era of increasing "age-friendliness," the estimated one in ten older adults who experience elder mistreatment remain largely uncared for and unrecognized.

To respond to this challenge, The National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment has developed a toolkit for use by health systems and communities to improve the safety and wellbeing of older adults. Focused on screening and referral in Emergency Departments, the toolkit also offers resources for clinicians and health systems to strengthen relationships with community resources that can support older adults after discharge.

*"You can't have an Age-Friendly Health Care System if you don't address elder mistreatment."*

—Terry Fulmer, PhD, RN, FAAN, President of The John A. Hartford Foundation

If these numbers stay the same, it is estimated that:

**7.3 million**

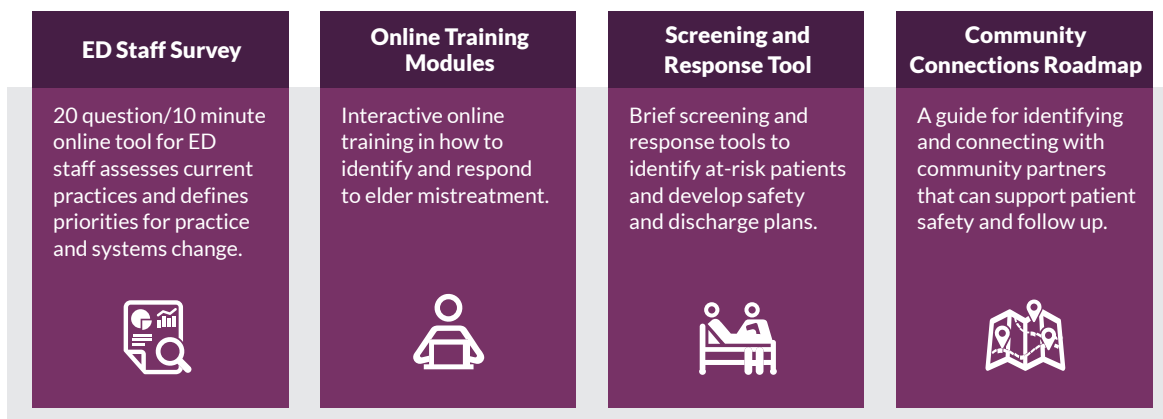
older adults in  
the U.S. will be  
mistreated in 2030



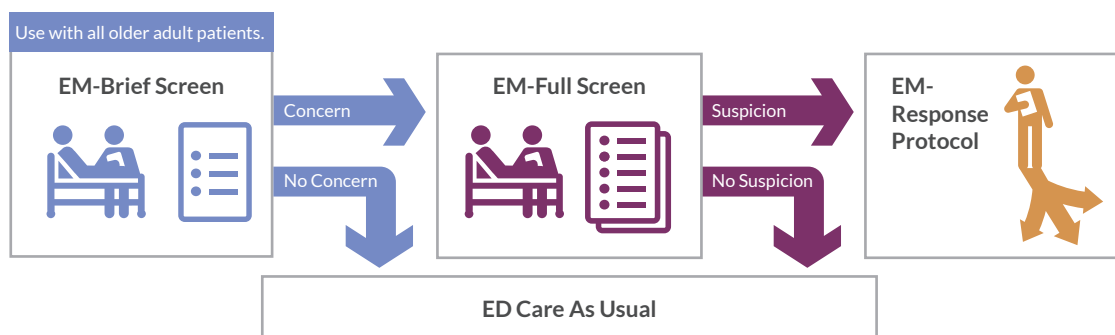
\*more than 7 million cases  
will go unreported.

## WHAT'S IN THE TOOLKIT?

The toolkit has four key elements.



## HOW DOES IT WORK?



## WHO SHOULD USE THE TOOLKIT?

The toolkit is available, free of charge, to any institution interested in improving their response to elder mistreatment. It has been tested in a range of health care settings--urban and rural, private and safety-net, academic and religiously affiliated—and found to be feasible to use and to improve rates of screening for elder mistreatment in every case. The toolkit will be available in digital format in early 2022, in partnership with the Geriatric Emergency Department Collaborative ([www.gedcollaborative.com](http://www.gedcollaborative.com)). Use of the toolkit can be counted toward accreditation as a Geriatric Emergency Department.

## ABOUT THE NATIONAL COLLABORATORY TO ADDRESS ELDER MISTREATMENT AND EDC

With funding from The John A. Hartford Foundation and The Gordon and Betty Moore, **The National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment** was founded in 2016 with a charge to develop a scalable response to the prevalence of elder mistreatment. This group is comprised of national experts in elder mistreatment from the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical School, the University of Texas, and Weill-Cornell College of Medicine, with **Education Development Center (EDC)** serving as the Collaboratory convener. EDC is a global nonprofit with more than 60 years of experience designing, testing, and implementing innovative programs addressing critical challenges in health, education, and economic inequality.

### Contact:

Kristin Lees Haggerty, Project Director,  
[klees@edc.org](mailto:klees@edc.org)



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The John A. Hartford Foundation

