#### **NEGLECT & ACTS OF OMISSION** WHAT IF...

The What if ... series seeks to provide guidance to aid the identification of an adult safeguarding concern and the action to take.

# What is an Act of Omission?

The failure of someone with a responsibility to act to provide care or support to a person in need. This includes ignoring medical needs, failing to provide access to necessary services or withholding essentials like medication or nutrition.

# Types of Neglect and Acts of Omission

- Failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, stimulation and activity, personal or medical care
- Providing care in a way that the person dislikes
- Failure to administer medication as prescribed
- Refusal of access to visitors
- Not taking account of individuals' cultural, religious or ethnic needs
- Not taking account of educational, social and recreational needs
- Ignoring or isolating the person
- Preventing the person from making their own decisions
- Preventing access to any necessary aids, such as glasses, hearing aids and dentures
- Failure to ensure privacy and dignity

# Signs and Indicators:

- Poor environment that is dirty or unhygienic
- Poor physical condition and personal hygiene
- Pressure sores or ulcers
- Malnutrition or unexplained weight loss
- Untreated injuries and medical problems
- 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

### How to raise a concern...

- Call the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub on 01482 616 092 or email adultsafeguarding@hullcc.gov.uk
- For self neglect refer to self neglect what if card **Referral is appropriate?**





consider if Multi-Agency Risk Management (MARM)