# APS QUICK GUIDE FOR HOSPITAL STAFF

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

**TOLL-FREE : (855) TELL APS | (855) 835-5277**

## MANDATORY REPORTING

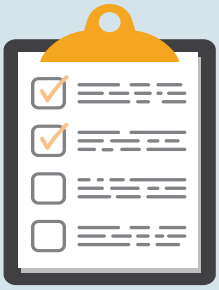
The following professionals are required by law to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation:

- All health care professionals (e.g., doctors, nurses, social workers, etc.)
- Law enforcement officers
- Firefighters, paramedics, EMTs

## WHY REPORT TO APS?

- Mandated reporters are legally required to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
- To check if the individual is an active APS client or if APS has had prior involvement.
- To seek guidance or suggestions from APS in ensuring the patient's safety and well-being.

## APS CASE CRITERIA



A vulnerable adult may qualify for APS if they meet *all* of the following:

- **Age:** 18 years older
- **Residence:** Living in a private home or non-regulated community setting
- **Vulnerability:** Unable to manage their well-being due to physical or mental illness, disability, or deficiency
- **Risk:** Experiencing abuse, neglect, or exploitation

*Note: APS services are voluntary unless court ordered.*

## CONFIDENTIALITY

- All APS reports and records are confidential.
- APS may only disclose information under a court order or as required to ensure the individual's protection.

## LIMITS TO APS ASSISTANCE

- APS cannot force services on adults with capacity who decline services.
- APS cannot remove an individual from their home without consent or a court order.
- APS cannot impose restrictions unless ordered by a court.

## REPORTING TO APS



When reporting to APS:

- If possible, information should be provided by the person with firsthand knowledge.

If available, provide detailed information including:

- **Patient Information:** Name, address, Social Security number
- **Health Details:** Relevant diagnoses and physical/mental health concerns
- **Support Systems:** Involved family members, services, or agencies
- **Allegations:** Specific concerns about abuse, neglect, or exploitation

**To make a report or for more information, call (855) TELL-APS or visit APS.NJ.GOV.**

State of New Jersey
Mikie Sherrill, Governor
Shirley U. Emehelu, Lt. Governor

HUMAN SERVICES
Department of Human Services
Dr. Stephen Cha, Commissioner