



The Legal Framework

Domestic Abuse Act 2021 –

Provides a legal definition of Domestic Abuse and highlights the duties of statutory agencies in responding to domestic abuse.

The Care Act 2014 –Section 44

Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Carers assessments

Article 8 of the Human Rights Act

1998 gives us a right to respect for private and family life. However, this is not an absolute right, and there may be justification to override it, for example, health protection, crime prevention, and protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

Controlling or Coercive Behaviour in an Intimate or Family Relationship – Legal Guidance

SEND US FEEDBACK

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1. Background

Brian was 81 when he died in August 2021 and shared his house with his son.

Brian relied on caregivers and his son for all his care and support needs.

Agencies raised concerns about potential neglect by his son.

2. Balancing the choice between alternative and conventional treatments

Brian and his son advocated for alternative medicine and resisted traditional therapies.

What to be aware of:

1. Recognise the various backgrounds and cultures that may impact choice.
2. Considering mental capacity and seeking advice from colleagues if mental capacity is in doubt.
3. The preferences of adults should be discussed to make informed decisions. In addition, to assess the possibility of adverse reactions to medical procedures, including medications.

3. Engaging with carers

The son was verbally abusive to staff, and there were fears that he would disrupt Brian's care.

What to do?

1. Offer carer's assessments.
2. To beware of the gender stereotypes of carers.
3. Provide carers with information on the acceptable levels of behaviour your organisation expects from practitioners and the public.

4. Coercion and Control

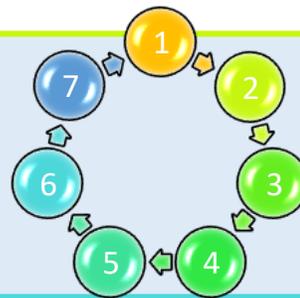
There were concerns that Brian's son was coercing or influencing his decisions on medical procedures.

What to do?

1. Recognise and respond to compulsion and control.
2. Contact your safeguarding lead for assistance and advice.

7. What are my responsibilities?

1. Collaborate with partners to agree the best method of working with the adult.
2. Respect the individual's viewpoints and work towards their desired outcomes by being person-centred.
3. Be analytical in order to find underlying factors that will aid in the resolution of the problem.
4. Be patient, acquire the individual's trust, and agree on little actions at a time.



6. Safeguarding

Seven safeguarding concerns were raised for Brian, citing potential neglect from his son.

Senior managers to support:

1. Procedures for escalation are in place.
2. Staff will be given the authority to challenge decisions.
3. Clear guidance on instigating MDTs.

5. Making Safeguarding Personal

To be person-centred and outcome-focused per the adult's wishes.

How?

1. Determining how the adult would like to be supported and what this would entail.
2. Keeping the adult involved throughout the process.
3. When capacity is a concern, make sure an advocate or family/friend is involved.