

## Abstract

The purpose of the present study was to explore the risk factors for elderly abuse and the psychological impact of it. A total of 355 elderly individuals participated in the present study, among which 38.3 % suffered some degree of abuse in the past year. When this estimate was broken down by gender, 41.7 % of female respondents were abused as compared to 31.7 % of male respondents. More common forms of abuse were neglect and verbal abuse, which accounted for 31 % and 20.8 % respectively. Less common forms of abuse included social abuse and physical abuse. They accounted for 1.4 % and 2.0 % respectively. Severity of abuse was best predicted by participant's life satisfaction. Psychological distress was best predicted by severity of verbal abuse. Among various forms of psychological distress, somatic complaints, anxiety, and social dysfunction were best predicted by severity of verbal abuse, and depression was best predicted by severity of material abuse.