



## Tool 5.8: Assessing needs of an older person

In developing a support plan, safety plan and making referrals, consider the following factors:

<p><b>Older person</b></p> <p>Is your client at risk of harm?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to the risk factors listed in this toolkit and what you know about the older person.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alleged abuser</b></p> <p>What is the relationship between the older person and the alleged abuser?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What influence does the abuser have on the older person: financial, psychological, social, physical and sexual?</li> <li>Access the abuser has to the older person such as whether they live in the same house as the older person or carer.</li> <li>The risk factors for the alleged abuser, e.g. carer stress factors, mental health etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Support networks</b></p> <p>What support does the older person have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family.</li> <li>Friends.</li> <li>Interests/hobbies.</li> <li>Church.</li> <li>Health and/or other social services.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Environments</b></p> <p>What is the environment like for the older person? Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health factors such as mobility.</li> <li>Social isolation.</li> <li>History of domestic and family violence.</li> <li>Support networks.</li> <li>Values, experiences, decision-making.</li> <li>Belief systems and culture.</li> <li>Legal factors.</li> </ul>