

**National Adult Protective Services Resource Center  
NAPSA/NCPEA Research Committee  
Research to Practice Brief  
Webinar Summary**

**Title** - Elder Abuse Computerized Decision Support System

**Presenters** - Kendon J. Conrad, Madelyn Iris, Jessica Mazza

**Source** - National Institute of Justice Award Nos. 2006-MU-MU-0004 & 2009-IJ-CX-0202

**Summary of Research**

Nationally, elder mistreatment and financial exploitation continue to be under-reported, resulting in inaccurate prevalence and incidence statistics, and increased suffering of older adults. Important systemic factors contributing to this problem include the lack of valid, standardized assessment procedures, and state-specific definitions of various types of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. This presentation describes the development of EADSS, an Elder Abuse Decision Support System, that uses standardized measures and short screening forms to assess elder mistreatment and exploitation, and presents expected system outcomes such as increased convenience and efficiency and improved quality of assessments.

**Practice and Policy Implications**

Advances in assessment methodology and computer technology offer promising solutions to improve the identification and tracking of elder mistreatment and exploitation, as well as to reduce some barriers related to the responsive assessment and delivery of services to victims.

**For Further Reading**

Conrad, K.J., Iris, M., Ridings, J.W., Rosen, A., Fairman, K., Anetzberger, G. (2011). Conceptual Model and Map of Psychological Abuse of Older Adults. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 23(02), pp. 147 -168. DOI: 10.1080/08946566.2011.558784

Conrad, K.J., Iris, M., Ridings, J.W., Langley, K., Anetzberger, G. (2010). Self-report Measure of Psychological Abuse of Older Adults. *The Gerontologist*, doi:10.1093/geront/gnq103

Conrad, K.J., Iris, M., Ridings, J.W., Langley, K., Wilber, K.H. (2010). Self-Report Measure of Financial Exploitation of Older Adults. *The Gerontologist*, 50(6) 758-773, doi: 10.1093/geront/gnq054

Conrad, K.J., Ridings, J.W., Iris, M., Fairman, K.P., Rosen, A., Wilber, K.H. (2011). Conceptual Model and Map of Financial Exploitation of Older Adults. *Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect*, 23(4):304-325. DOI: 10.1080/08946566.2011.584045

Iris, M., Ridings, J., Conrad, K.J. (2010). The Development of a Conceptual Framework for Understanding Elder Self-Neglect. *The Gerontologist*, 50(3), 303-315. Doi: 10.1093/geront/gnp125.

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This National Adult Protective Services Resource Center (NAPSRC) re-search summary is part of a series sponsored by the National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) and the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA) joint Re-search Committee. The purpose of this research summary is to provide direct access to findings in order to enhance practice and clarify policy choices.

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Prepared by:  
Kendon J. Conrad,  
PhD,  
Senior Research Scientist,  
Chestnut Health Systems,  
Normal, Illinois;  
Professor Emeritus,  
School of Public Health,  
University of Illinois at Chicago