You are concerned a patient may be suffering, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect

Is it abuse? (Refer to the ‘Types and Indicators of Abuse’ section)

What are the patient’s views on what is happening to them?

You are still UNSURE if the patient is suffering, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect

Who else can you talk to within the Primary Care Team who knows the patient or for advice?
A) Colleagues who know the patient/family well
B) Practice Safeguarding Lead
C) Community Healthcare staff who are involved e.g. District Nurse, Learning Disability Team

Still unsure? Who else can you talk to for advice?
Designated Professionals Named GP Adult Social Care
Advice can be sought from any of these professionals without sharing any patient details

Depending on the outcome of these discussion, follow the guidance on the right hand side of this flowchart

For common questions, see ‘SCIE Adult Safeguarding Practice Questions’ in the Making a Safeguarding Referral section

Record decision See Top Tip 8

This Decision Aid for making an Adult Safeguarding Referral to be used in conjunction with ‘Top Tips for Deciding if you need to make an Adult Safeguarding Referral’