

**Resources for legal advice or protection:**  
 National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA)  
<http://www.naela.com>  
 Adult Protective Services (APS)  
 1-800-252-5400  
<http://www.apsnetwork.org/>

**Resources for further medical evaluation:**  
 Specialists such as a geriatrician, neurologist, psychiatrist, or psychologist may be warranted. The MiniCog (<http://geriatrics.uthsca.edu/tools/MINICog.pdf>) and Financial Capacity Instruments (<http://www.neurology.org/cgi/content/abstract/73/12/928>) may be useful tools for use to screen for vulnerability to EIFFE.

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**Resources for social services and investor protection:**  
 National Center on Elder Abuse  
<http://www.ncea.aoa.gov>  
 United Way  
<http://www.211.org>  
 National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers  
<http://www.caremanager.org>  
 Case Management Society of America  
<http://cmsa.org/>  
 North American Securities Administrators Association  
<http://www.nasaa.org>  
 Investor Protection Trust  
<http://www.investorprotection.org>

**How do I ask about financial capacity?**

**Introductory question:**  
 We find that some older adults worry about money; may I ask you a few questions about this?

**Questions you can ask:**

1. Who manages your money day to day? How is that going?
2. Do you run out of money at the end of the month?
3. Do you regret or worry about financial decisions you've recently made?
4. Have you given power of attorney to another person?
5. Do you have a will? Has anyone asked you to change it?

If answers raise suspicion, see the following four referral sections or probe for further details by using the Financial Concerns Checklist. This checklist may also be added to the patient/client information packet and completed during intake.

**What types of referral may be needed?**

1. Further social assessment, help with managing money, or other care.
2. Legal advice or protection.
3. Fraud and exploitation may have occurred.
4. Further medical evaluation.

In most states, reporting to APS is required by law. It can be reported orally and confidentially without civil or criminal liability. Needs assessment for cognitive, neurological, or other conditions.

**Financial Concerns Checklist**

**Are you having any of the following common concerns?**

- I have trouble paying bills because the bills are confusing to me.
- I don't feel confident making big financial decisions alone.
- I don't understand financial decisions that someone else is making for me.
- I give loans or gifts more than I can afford.
- My children or others are pressuring me to give them money.
- People are calling me or mailing me asking for money, lotteries.
- Someone is accessing my accounts or money seems to be disappearing.

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**Pocket Guide on Elder Investment Fraud and Financial Exploitation**

**Should I be concerned?**

**Red Flags in patient/client history:**

- Social Isolation
- Bereavement
- Dependence on another to provide care
- Financially responsible for adult child or spouse
- Alcohol or drug abuse
- Depression or mental illness

**Red Flags from clinical observations:**

- Cognitive problems
- Fearful, emotionally labile, or distressed
- Suspicious, delusional
- Change in appearance, poor hygiene
- Accompanied by caregiver who is overly protective; dominates patient/client
- Change in ability to perform activities of daily living, including self-care, daily finances, medication management




