Older Persons in Vulnerable Situations

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Picture credit: Centre for Ageing Better
Vulnerable situations

- Specific periods of time
- Events or changes in circumstances
- Risk overwhelming coping resources
- Affect 1+ areas of life
- Potential negative impacts

(Levasseur et al., 2022; Schroder-Butterfill and Marianti, 2006)
Older persons and vulnerable situations

• Many older persons are not vulnerable but they may:
  • Be at greater risk of exposure
  • Face different challenges
  • Have fewer resources for coping

• Older persons can move in and out of vulnerable situations

➢ Ireland Standards in adult safeguarding

(Grundy, 2006; WHO, 2021)
Wider events and changes in circumstances

- Societal and environmental events
  - May affect almost everyone
  - Unequal impact due to existing vulnerabilities; intersecting disadvantages and discrimination
- Changes to personal circumstances
  - Health, financial, housing, social

Moldova Safe Spaces

(Hewitt and Kapadia, 2021; UN, 2020)
Persistent causes of vulnerability

• Increase the possibility of negative consequences when a shock occurs
• Result from societal systems and discrimination
• Accumulate over life and generations
• Create complex layers

➢ Netherland Sociaal Vitaal

(Bowleg, 2012; Levasseur et al., 2021; UN, 2023)
References


