VIOLENCE IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION
ELDER ABUSE

A single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, that causes harm or distress to an older person.

Includes
- neglect
- abandonment
- physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, financial, and material abuse

KEY FACTS

More than 4600 people aged 60 years and older were murdered in the Western Pacific Region in 2012.

63% of fatal elder maltreatment occurs in males who are twice as likely to be murdered as women.

NATIONAL RESPONSE

Of the 20 regional countries that participated in the survey, ONLY

National Action Plans
- 9 countries have a national or subnational action plan for the prevention of elder abuse.

Evidence-based programmes implemented on a larger scale*
- 5 countries have professional awareness campaigns to identify and support those at risk for abuse.
- 6 countries have public information campaigns.
- 7 countries have caregiver support programmes for those who care for older people.
- 6 countries have programmes to improve policies and procedures for residential care.

Legislation
- 10 countries have laws specifically prohibiting abuse of older people.
- 6 countries have laws that protect older people in institutions.

Source: Violence in the Western Pacific 2014
http://iris.wpro.who.int/handle/10665.1/12400

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