



# Elder Justice Coalition

July 27, 2025

The bipartisan 3000-member Elder Justice Coalition today criticized the US Preventive Services Task Force for concluding insufficient evidence to support screening older adults for caregiver abuse and neglect, calling it “a regrettable form of ageism.”

The Coalition notes the data reviewed by the independent panel of medical experts found elder abuse by a caregiver or trusted individual to be common. They also found that most states require healthcare professionals to report reasonable suspicions of elder abuse to Adult Protective Services. Despite this and other data showing the increasing prevalence of elder mistreatment, the USPSTF again refused to support this needed screening even though this same entity recommended screening for intimate partner violence for women of reproductive age.

The Coalition also questions USPSTF’s methods in reviewing this research. This is not an isolated incident but part of a troubling, repeated pattern where older adults are excluded from the full benefits of preventive care guidance due to a persistent lack of evidence — often because older adults are underrepresented in research to begin with. In the past five years, USPSTF has ruled insufficient evidence to support screening of older adults for suicide risk, anxiety disorders, cognitive impairment, hearing loss, impaired visual acuity, food insecurity, and more. The Coalition urges USPSTF and the broader research community to prioritize inclusion of older adults in studies and adopt frameworks that acknowledge the unique complexities of aging populations, rather than defaulting to inaction.

Screening for possible caregiver abuse and neglect is something whose time has come. It is critical to help prevent abuse and neglect of older adults. We should prioritize resources for caregiver training and support as another means of preventing elder abuse.

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## **About EJC**

Our coalition is 2,000 members strong, spanning all generations. Comprised of individuals and organizations, we are a resource to Congress, the Administration, media, and the general public

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to raise awareness of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation and help develop and advocate for national policies to end this crisis. For more information, go to [www.elderjusticecoalition.com](http://www.elderjusticecoalition.com).