

# TOGETHER WE CAN TACKLE ABUSE OF NHS STAFF

## NHS STAFF EXPERIENCES



The assault is always on my mind at work and even has an effect on me out of work.... Even with time passing ....I have found I am still very anxious and nervous ..... I feel it hard to describe the impact that the permanent injuries have caused me as I live with them everyday... ”

Social Outreach Worker



... although I can still carry out my role as a nurse I do find I am a lot more nervous and anxious and avoid a lot of situations thinking someone else can deal with it... Even colleagues have told me I am not as confident as I once was. ”

Senior Staff Nurse

A small number of people sometimes show no respect for NHS staff and verbally or physically abuse them. This is wrong. It can be devastating for the professionals who are abused. It also affects the quality of NHS care.

### What is abuse?

Abuse is not only physical violence. Shouting and harassment which causes staff distress is also abuse. This behaviour is unacceptable.

### Respect

NHS staff deserve respect and like anyone should be able to do their jobs and care for people without being shouted at, harassed or physically assaulted.

If people choose to abuse NHS staff, they can be punished. They could even go to prison.

It does not matter if people are drunk or on illegal drugs. There is no excuse for violent or abusive behaviour towards those who dedicate themselves to caring for the public.

### Penalties for abuse include:

- » Imprisonment
- » Police cautions with a record
- » Fines

### IT'S YOUR CHOICE OF TREATMENT....



[www.cfsms.nhs.uk](http://www.cfsms.nhs.uk)

Security Management Service

# YOUR CHOICE OF TREATMENT



# STOP ABUSE OF NHS STAFF

Verbal or physical abuse of our staff could result in prosecution



Security Management Service