

9 WAYS

Any Patient Can be Considered Vulnerable



01 ANXIOUS

They maybe **Stressed** and **Anxious** when accessing healthcare about their physical needs



03 COGNITIVE ABILITY

They may have reduced **Cognitive** ability due to the above feelings and/or medication



05 TREATMENT

They are unsure of the **Treatment** offered, the alternatives or the outcomes to be decided upon



07 TERMIINOLOGY

They may have limited treatment **Knowledge** or are unfamiliar with healthcare **Terminology**



09 CONTROL

They may feel they have little or no **Control** over their diagnosis, health condition, treatment or prognosis

Vulnerability can arise as a result of a mismatch between a sick persons needs or knowledge and the practitioners reaction to them.

02 PAIN



They maybe experiencing physical **Pain** or a loss of control due to **Emotional** distress



04 STRANGE ENVIRONMENT

They maybe unsure of the healthcare **Environment**, the **Equipment** or a unknown **Healthcare Team**

06 CONFUSION



They maybe **Confused** due to unclear communication between them and the practitioner or the medication taken

08 POWER



They are vulnerable to the **Power Dynamics** of the care giver/care receivers relationship because the practitioner or care giver holds the power

The experience of vulnerability can affect a patients functions physically, emotionally and socially

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