

# DO YOU WORK WITH ADULTS?

“As a Physiotherapy Manager, I know how important it is for the team to be alert to child protection and welfare issues.

Recently a Physiotherapist was treating an older man at home after a fall. The man lived with his son and grandson who had significant additional needs. Over several visits she noticed that the man was often left to care for his young grandson.

The house was very dirty, the man could not cook and had limited mobility. The child was left sitting in one position for lengthy periods of time and he appeared unkempt. She was worried about the man’s ability to care for his grandson and had concerns that they were both being neglected.

The Physiotherapist came to me with her concerns and we agreed that she had reasonable grounds for concern. Contact was made with the adult safeguarding team and a Child Protection and Welfare Report was sent to Tusla-Child and Family Agency. It didn’t matter that the child was not her patient.

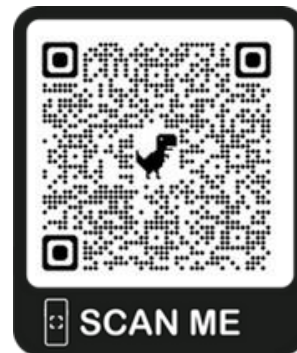
I supported her to follow the steps in the HSE Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedure which included speaking to the child’s father.”



## You could make all the difference

All staff have a responsibility to report reasonable grounds for concern about the protection or welfare of a child to [Tusla - Child and Family Agency](https://www.tusla.ie/).

Staff working with adults have an important role to play in safeguarding children and could make all the difference in a child’s life.



For more information go online and visit [www.hse.ie/childrenfirst](https://www.hse.ie/childrenfirst)