

8/84

7) ELDERLY ADDICTS

NO KILL DATE

:60 PSA

DRUG ADDICTION IS GENERALLY THOUGHT OF AS A PROBLEM AMONG YOUNGER PEOPLE. BUT ELDERLY PERSONS ARE PRONE TO DRUG ADDICTION AS WELL, SAYS DR. ARNOLD GREENHOUSE, OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:

.17 "You don't see them. A 70-year-old junkie is not too romantic, but there are a fair number of people like this. I suspect one drug that's high on the list is alcohol, which is a more common problem than we think it is."

OLDER PERSONS CAN BECOME ADDICTED TO TRANQUILIZERS AND SLEEPING PILLS. IF YOU SUSPECT AN ELDERLY FRIEND OR RELATIVE MAY BE ADDICTED, LOOK FOR CHANGES IN BEHAVIOR:

.14 "Somebody's mind has changed, their behavior has changed over a period of weeks..... Other sources are the friend who had this wonderful pill and people use it because a friend recommends it."

THEN, EXPRESS YOUR CONCERN TO THE PERSON AND THE FAMILY PHYSICIAN. THIS IS HEALTHLINE, FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.