

Did you know? ...

Dementia is not a disease; it is a group of symptoms present in over 50 medical conditions many of which are treatable or curable.

HOW TO HIRE THE RIGHT GERIATRIC CARE MANAGER FOR YOUR PARENT

The right *Geriatric Care Manager* can help lower your stress, increase your peace of mind, and improve your family's quality of life. Your Care Manager can help improve Mom's healthcare and increase her independence by assuming she has *potential* for a better quality of life rather than accepting the current status quo.

Your personal Care Manager will advocate for your parent with every aspect of daily life, including doctor visits, medical treatments and hospitalizations, and report all results to you.

These 5 simple steps will help you identify the right Care Manager for your parent:

1. Ask your parent's physician for referrals or call the local organization most associated with your parent's needs (Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and Council on Aging). Interview your potential candidates on the phone.
2. Request credentials; request and thoroughly check references. For parents with serious medical issues, including those taking multiple medications, your best choice is a Nurse Care Manager.
3. Ask the candidates to describe problems they faced with clients like your parent and how they managed those situations.
4. Continuity is critical to establishing a relationship with you and your parent. Make certain the same nurse care manager will advocate for your family during the length of the relationship.
5. Request a written cost estimate detailing potential fees and services covered by those fees.

For more information, call Judie Rappaport:

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