

CONSUMER GUIDE FOR CHOOSING AN ASSISTED LIVING HOME

<i>COMMON AREAS</i>			<i>NOTES</i>
Are there safe walking paths for residents outside the home?			
Is the home's interior free of clutter and odors?			
Do you see smoke detectors, sprinkler systems, and fire extinguishers?			
Does the home have a security system?			
Are rooms, lounge area, and dining areas clean? Are they noisy?			
Is there a private dining room for residents to entertain family or friends?			
Does the menu have a good variety of foods and is it posted for residents?			
Are residents involved in planning meals?			
Is the staff able to accommodate for special diets?			
Are snacks available for residents throughout the day?			
Are meals served on time and do the residents like them?			
Does staff assist the resident with meals or are special devices available if necessary?			
<i>RESIDENT ROOMS</i>			
Will the resident have to share a room? Can they bring their own furniture?			
Are there things residents cannot bring to their room?			
Does the home provide furnishings in the rooms? What is the cost?			
Are there call lights in rooms and bathrooms and are they within reach?			
Do residents have their own bathroom/shower?			
Is there space for toiletries and personal items?			
Are residents allowed to have pets in their rooms? What is the cost?			
<i>RESIDENT ACTIVITIES/TRANSPORTATION/MEDICATIONS</i>			
Does the home have daily activities and is the schedule posted for residents?			
Is there a good variety of activities /exercise and are they well attended?			
Do residents participate in the planning of activities?			
Are there activities that take place outside the home?			
Does the home bring community groups in for activities and religious services?			
Does the home have an active resident council?			
Does the home provide transportation for residents? What is the cost?			
Are residents able to keep medications in their rooms?			
Is staff certified to hand out resident medications?			
Can prescriptions be delivered to the home from my pharmacy? Cost?			

<i>SERVICES PROVIDED TO RESIDENTS</i>		
How long has the administrator been there? Is she/he there fulltime?		
How long has the nurse been there? How often does she/he visit?		
How many caregivers are in the home on a normal day?		
Do caregivers only take care of residents or do they have other duties?		
How often does staff clean resident rooms/clothing/towels/bed linens? What is cost?		
Does staff assist with bathing, grooming, or toileting?		
Are beauty salon services available? What is cost?		
Does the home provide specialty care, i.e., dementia, behaviors?		
What type of training does the staff have?		
Is the Ombudsman/advocacy poster available to residents?		
Are complaints handled in a timely manner? How are they handled?		
<i>FEES AND POLICIES</i>		
Does the home require an application fee? Is it refundable?		
Does the home require a fee upon move in or move out? Is it refundable?		
What is the basic room rate and what does it include?		
What are other fees for other services?		
Does the home accept Medicaid payment without additional contribution from an outside source/family?		
Will the resident have to share a room if they receive state Medicaid money?		
Do residents' room rates increase annually? If not how often?		
Is there an initial evaluation to make sure the facility is appropriate for the new resident?		
Will the home give you copies of forms needing signature so you can review before signing?		
Will the home give you a copy of their policies, including Resident Rights and discharge notices?		
If the resident is temporarily away from the home will the room be held? Cost?		
What is the billing method? How is it determined?		

SIGNED BY:	TITLE:	DATE:
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