



# Professional Caretakers™

Please feel free to use following checklist to help you decide which kind of agency is right for your loved one!

| <p><b>Rate Your Agency!</b></p> <p>In Texas, there are four types of agencies providing care in the home:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Licensed Home Health Agencies (LHHS)</li> <li>2) Personal Attendant Services, non medical (PAS)</li> <li>3) Medicare/Medicaid Agencies</li> <li>4) Unlicensed Persons</li> </ol> | <p>Professional Caretakers<br/>Non-Medical <i>and</i> Medical<br/>Non-Medicare</p> | <p>Personal Attendant Service<br/>Non-Medical<br/>(includes most of the large franchises)</p> | <p>Medicare Agencies &amp; Hospice<br/>(includes most of the hospital affiliated agencies)</p> | <p>Unlicensed Person</p> | <p>Your Current Agency</p> |
|--|--|---|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <p><b>Licensed by the State of Texas?</b></p>  | <p>LHHS <i>and</i> PAS<br/>non Medicare</p>  | <p>PAS only</p>   | <p>Medicare<br/>Medicaid</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p><b>Peace of Mind?</b></p>   |  |   |  |                          |                            |
| <p>Does your agency have an RN dedicated to planning and supervising your loved one's ongoing care?</p>  | <p>✓</p>   | <p>No RN</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Can the RN delegate and supervise your loved one's caretaker, ensuring the safety of the following tasks:</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>No RN</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Medications? Setup pill minder?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>No RN</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Tube feeding, enemas, suppositories?</p>  | <p>✓</p>   | <p>No RN</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Eye drops, ear drops, nose drops?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>No RN</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Blood pressure and vital signs?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>No RN</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Do they provide personal care such as bathing, dressing, toileting as well as housekeeping/cooking?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>sometimes</p>  | <p>sometimes</p>   | <p>✓</p>                 |                            |
| <p><b>Who Are They?</b></p>  |  |   |  |                          |                            |
| <p>Locally owned and operated?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>✓ but may be franchised</p>  | <p>sometimes</p>   | <p>✓</p>                 |                            |
| <p>Experienced in home care for over 18 years?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>✓ but may be franchised</p>  | <p>sometimes</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Will long term care insurance pay for their care?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>sometimes</p>  |  |                          |                            |
| <p><b>No Hidden Costs?</b></p>   |  |   |  |                          |                            |
| <p>Free care assessment and free on going care management by an RN?</p>  | <p>✓</p>   | <p>sometimes</p>  |  |                          |                            |
| <p>No extra charge for weekends or nights?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   |   |  |                          |                            |
| <p>Transportation <b>wherever</b> you'd like to go?</p>  | <p>✓</p>   | <p>sometimes</p>  |  |                          |                            |
| <p>Low live-in rates?</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |   |  |                          |                            |
| <p><b>Are you protected?</b></p>   |  |   |  |                          |                            |
| <p>Criminal background checked, driving record checked, drug tested?</p>   | <p>✓</p>   | <p>sometimes</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Are the caretakers treated as employees, and not contractors, with fully paid ss and taxes? <i>(does the company pay the caretaker and their payroll taxes or will you be held liable)</i></p>  | <p>✓</p>   | <p>sometimes</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |
| <p>Insured and bonded? <i>(if you or the caretaker are injured, will the company's insurance cover you or will the caretaker pursue you and your homeowner's insurance)</i></p>  | <p>✓</p>   | <p>sometimes</p>  | <p>✓</p>   |                          |                            |