



Professional Caretakers, Inc.

“I’m confused about the different kinds of home care.” We are hearing this more often. Feel free to use the following checklist to help you decide which kind of agency is right for your loved one! In Texas, there are four types of agencies providing care in the home: **(1)** Licensed Home Health Agency, **(2)** Licensed Personal Attendant Services (PAS) (Non-Medical), **(3)** Medicare/Medicaid Agency, and **(4)** Unlicensed Person (Agency).

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
<h2>Are You Protected?</h2> <p>Rate your agency...</p> <p>Ask the following questions:</p>	Professional Caretakers (Non-Medical & Medical) Non-Medicare	Personal Attendant Service (Non-Medical) (includes most of the large franchises)	Medicare Agencies & Hospice (includes most of the hospital affiliated agencies)	Unlicensed Person	Rate Your Agency
Licensed by the State of Texas?	Non Medicare Home Health and PAS	PAS only	Medicare Medicaid		
Peace of Mind?					
Does your agency have an RN dedicated to planning and supervising your loved one’s ongoing care?	√	No RN	√		
Can the RN delegate and supervise your loved one’s caretaker, ensuring the safety of the following tasks:	√	No RN	√		
Medications? Setup pill minder?	√	No RN	√		
Tube feeding, enemas, suppositories?	√	No RN	√		
Eye drops, ear drops, nose drops?	√	No RN	√		
Blood pressure and vital signs?	√	No RN	√		
Do they provide personal care such as bathing, dressing, toileting as well as housekeeping/cooking?	√	sometimes	sometimes	√	
Who Are They?					
Locally owned and operated?	√	√, but may be franchised	sometimes	√	
Experienced in home care for over 18 years?	√	√, but may be franchised	sometimes		
Will long term care insurance pay for their care?	√	sometimes			
No Hidden Costs?					
Free care assessment and free on going care management by an RN?	√	sometimes			
No extra charge for a couple?	√				
No extra charge for weekends or nights?	√				
Transportation wherever you’d like to go?	√	sometimes			
Low live-in rates?	√				
Are you protected?					
Criminal background checked, driving record checked, drug tested?	√	sometimes	√		
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>	√	sometimes	√		
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>	√	sometimes	√		